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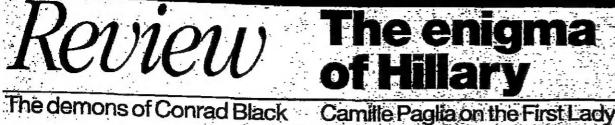
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Plus: what makes an opera house great

Phasing of teachers' award planned
Labour wins Hemsworth poll

Tories to sidestep pay row

NHS unions join call for 'justice'

Donald MacLeod and Michael White

HE Government is poised to buy itself electoral time and avert a fresh rebellion

among parents over class sizes by phasing the teachers' pay award into next year — in the knowledge that a new Labour govern-ment may be left to clean up the public sector pay meer in the public sector pay mess in

The ploy emerged last night as John Major and Tony Blair engaged in sharp exchanges over the disclosure that senior managers of hospital trusts saw their pay rise by an average 7.6 per cent against 3.2 per cent received by nurses. Continuing controversy over MPs' pay fuelled the row. Last night's anger spread

right across the public sector pay front, with health and education under the spotlight. Councils which have bud the hot potato to the Senior geted for a maximum of 3.2 Salaries Review Body per cent pay increase for leachers were alarmed by suggestions yesterday that their pay review body may propose 3.8 per cent - reports

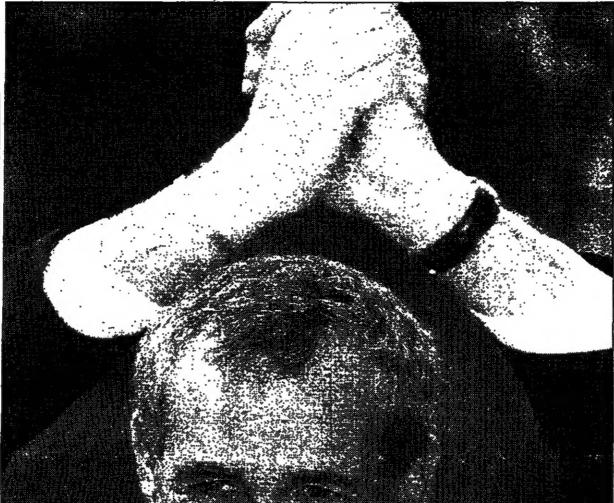
should all get similar treat-ment in future. Administrative costs had risen by more than \$1 billion since the health service changes of

1990, he said. Health unions also joined the row demanding justice for their members and enough extra cash to keep and attract

extra cash to keep and attract staff. Mr Major pledged his sup-port for fairness over pay but accused his rival of asking "senseless" questions. Even Margaret Beckett, Labour's former health spokeswoman before Harriet Harman, had admitted that the NHS was

admitted that the NHS was "under-managed" in the past, he told cheering Tory MPs. The row immediately be-came emeshed in the controversy over MPs' £34,086 a year pay which some back-benchers want to see doubled to catch up with comparable professional groups — to the anger of public sector unions

and poverty campaigners. It became clear yesterday that the Cabinet hopes to pass which deals with judges, senior military ranks and higher civil servants — rather than to the Nolan committee as proposed in a Com-



Major will not face autumn challenge

Patrick Wintour and Martin Walnwright

OHN MAJOR was freed Jyesterday from any lin-gering speculation of a direct challenge to his leadership before the next election when the Tory backbench 1922 Committee agreed to ban any such challenge. The vote of confidence in

Mr Major, after a formight of restored Tory morale at West-minster. came as Tony Blair, the Labour leader. launched a ferocious assault on the night-mare of a fifth Tory term. He claimed that the real hypocrite in British politics

was not Harriet Harman, but a Tory government that said one thing before an election and did another afterwards. Confronting the aggressive new Tory tactics head-on, he conjugation of Brit. conjured up a vision of Brit-ain with classrooms of 100.

VAT on children's clothe and citizens protected by private security guards. The Conservative chair-man, Brian Mawbinney, described Mr Blair's speech as hysterical, and a clear sign that he was buckling under

Austin THIS STRING OF DEFEATS NEW



this would take a considerable amount of time. "The uncertainty involved was not acceptable, hence the

executive and the full com-mittee have taken this particular course of action. The rules of party leader-ship elections were revised after Margaret Thatcher was

ousted, to require 10 per cent of Tory MPs to back a chailenge before a contest could be called.

Mr Blair's attack coincided the rules, which Downing Street had been privately

which the Treasury warily mons motion sis described as "speculative". In a tight budgetary year

even the lower figure is too high for some authorities. But phasing an award over 18 months - or "end-loading" it with part of the rise paid in April and part next January — would bring the annual

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cost below 3 per cent which many would find manageable. By using that device to slash an estimated £100 million off this year's predicted pay bill for teachers in Eng-land and Wales ministers would ease the pressure on local authorities and enable most schools to hold the line on class sizes even if they could not reduce them. It would defuse the threat of

parents' protests in the runup to the May council elections and the general election. But it would land the next government with a serious problem in 1997 when the extra cost became due. The decision could increase

the likelihood of an early election. which was again reflected at a noisy Prime Minister'squestion time when Mr Blair accused ministers of putting "bureaucrais, administrators, company cars and pen pushers" in the NHS be-fore doctors, nurses, patients and extra beds. He demanded that they

nearly half the 651 MPs. Challenged by Labour's Alf Morris, Mr Major said that "there needs to be a new mechanism" for members' pay which ministers had been considering for some time be-fore the latest backbench

campaign. The timetable emerging looks like providing MPs with a pay rise in two phases, on January 1, 1997, and probably after the general election. The anter the general election. The package is unlikely to double their pay, but less eye-catch-ing changes to pensions and expenses could yield gains. A statement is expected

next week after agreement has been reached with the Opposition. Yesterday's alarm among local authorities arose over a

leak to the Financial Time suggesting that junior doctors and nurses can expect about 4 per cent, dentists slightly more and teachers about 3.8 per cent.

firmed the leak has also thrown pay talks between local authorities and public sector unions into disarray. The unions had already rejected 2.4 per cent but the employers were hoping to settle at around the rate of in-flation, currently 8.2 per cent.

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Student left standing as armed

raider escapes on crutches

Jon Trickett, Labour's man of the moment in Hemsworth, was backed by the hig guns

not addressed. He is under stood to have opted for a high a row with the unions or even ligure. Any decision to phase the pay award would anger teach ers, and headteachers yester- be more embarrassing to new i

Ironically, market forces

have a played a part. John Gardner, chairman of the been given evidence of a looming teacher shortage if recruitment and retention are pot addressed. He is under. wrong message to teachers. But ministers calculate that industrial action in schools

education spokesman, said the £878 million extra promised for education in the Bud-get settlement was a sleight of

."If the Government accepts the proposed award they have an obligation to ensure that our children are not expected to pay its cost through in-creased class sizes," said Mr Blunkett. David Blunkett, Labour's

PHOTOGRAPH DON MCPHEE

Sketch, page 2; Pay round, page 5; Letters page 8; Leader comment 8; Pater Preston, page 9

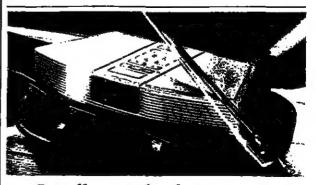
pressing for, does not rule out brations over the Hemsworth by-election, an expected the possibility that disastrous result which cut the overall local elections in May could government majority in the Commons to four. Labour sources said they the interests of the party.

were delighted at the news that Mr Major was now almost certain to be Mr Blair's challenger in the general elec-tion pext year.

Explaining the backbench decision to suspend the rules allowing a leadership election every autumn. Sir Marcus Fox, chairman of the 1922 taking place but, because of

see party grandees directing Mr Major to stand down in Most observers have long regarded resignation, rather than defeat by a challenger such as John Redwood this autumn, as the only realistic means of removing Mr Major

before a general election. The shoring up of Mr Major's position did not prevent Mr Blair from accusing him Committee, said: "At the mo-ment a review of the rules is tire election strategy on the turn to page 2. column 3



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Russian miners turn on Yeltsin

towards the city's universi-

Tom Sharratt ty campus. Police declined to say how much was stolen but disclosed that it was a A THIEF who robbed a student at gunpoint was small sum. The student, believed to being hunted by police in Liverpool yesterday after making his getaway on crutches. It is the city's be from Saudi Arabia, was shocked but not physically injured. second robbery by a gun-Detective Chief Inspector man on crutches in the last few weeks.

Hospital accident records are expected to be checked in an attempt to catch the

rnc student, who has digs in Toxteth, went out at about 2.45am to get money from a cashpoint near the from a cashpoint near the pose, pretending to be city's Anglican cathedral. disabled." But after collecting the money he was confronted by the robber leaning on crutches and brandishing a crutches and brandishing a But after collecting the hand over his cash. The the street. Police have ap-gunman then hobbled away pealed for witnesses. handgun and was forced to

Inside

Russia's coal miners, the underground army which came up to the light to back Boris Yeltsin in his struggle for power seven years ago, turned bitterly against their former hero yesterday as hundreds of thou-Frank Thompson, who is leading the hunt for the gunman, said: "He did not have a leg in plaster and there was no other sign of sands walked out on strike. Their basic demand was simple: they want to be paid. Some have received no wages for eight months. "Where is our money?" asked one ban-ner in the Arctic coal city of Vorkuta. The stoppage was an un-pleasant 65th birthday gift for The first theft by a raider President Yeltshi, who rode to power against Mikhail Gorbachev partly on the crest of the 1989 and 1991 waves of miners' strikes. threatened and robbed in

James Meek in Moscow

bass coalfield in central Sibe | keeping their local power | erument gives a lower figure ria — five years ago, one of stations supplied. The most passionately pro- On Sakhalin island near | der Livshits, Mr Yeltsin's the most passionately pro-Yeltsin regions. Today the Kuzbass miners' political chief economic aide, said yes terday that this money had Japan, coal shortages were said to have forced power cuts hope is vested in Aman Tu-leyev -- a leading members of and reductions in energy out-put. A Rosugol spokesman said Rostov region's power plants had only a few days' coal reserves left and power been transferred to Rosugol. the miners did not go back. Rosugol partly blames the power companies themselves, which owe hundreds of mil-

mines shut down. Other of debts which afflicts the mines were refusing to load country. But the government is the biggest debtor and the source of most of the problem.

Rosugol, gave a figure of which owe hundreds of mil-300,000, with 118 out of 182 lions of pounds for coal as pits and 27 out of 63 open-cast part of the nightmarish circle part of the nightmarish circle

One of the most solid strike choice between striking in more vague promises, they areas yesterday was the Kuz- the hope of being paid and resolved to strike. The gov-

caught between the approaching presidential elections and the negotiations with the IMF for a £6 billion loan Tens of thousands of Ukrainian miners began an indefinite strike yesterday in the acci-dent-prone Donbass coalfield,

The government said it would pay up eventually but would not bow to pressure. Ukraine's president, Leonid Kuchma, is further from elections than his Russian counterpart, and closer to spring.

- **9**1

But the Russian leader is

with the same demand to be paid overdue wages.

The president has said he wants all debts to state work-ers paid. Teachers are also on Gennady Zyuganov's revitalised communist party. Coal union leader Vitaly Budko said half a million strike across Russia this week

mine workers had downed tools, far more than expected. The state coal monopoly.

industry depends on coal. But first to suffer will be the

City of Words 3 Quick Crossword 15

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Arts 4 Carbons 15

Music C

first to suffer will be the power stations, with the end of winter two months away. Many miners face a tough gusted by what they saw as

Fiadio 16

Last week miners tried to

2 NEWS

Sketch

Irish edge towards backing Ulster poll their own hiccups plan but want Unionist commitment

relish

be manage

Come on, ave a drink .

verential calm

Of course they did. Mr Mor-

ris had mentioned something



Simon Hoggart

CITTING in the House of S Commons these days is a bit like riding in a train compartment suddenly invaded by football fans. They mean no harm but are loud and boisterous and, as you bury yourself deeper in your paper, you hope they don't de-cide to take an interest in your affairs.

First up at Prime Minister's Questions yesterday was Dr Charles Goodson-Wickes (C, Wimbledon) who is a promis-ing sycophant and could soon be a winner of the Motorway Sausage for greasiest question of the week. He asked whether Mr Major would congratulate Manor House hospital, which was funded by the T&GWU and patronised by other unions for their private health care.

Was this not a classic instance of Labour "saying

one thing ...?" The rest of his words were drowned as the lads with the Carlsberg Special (probably drunk by the most odious people in the world) roared in unison: "an' *doin* 'anuvver!" The Prime Minister said

this was a "fascinating point ... I am sure that if it is true, it is surprising that they are keen to use the private sector but also keen to condemn it". "If it is true"? Had the

whips not instructed Dr Goodson-Wickes to say it in the first place? Was the Prime Minister genuinely unaware of it? If so, it would be a rare example of a ventriloquist being surprised by his dummy

Tony Blair asked for doc-tors and nurses to receive similar pay rises to those just an-nounced for hospital administrators. Mr Major shawe) asked a question abou a motion he had recently tabled. Mr Major and the House listened with almost said: "I don't think it's the case that the NHS has been under-managed in the past few

'Undermanaged?" chortled Labour MPs. What they did of real importance: MPs' pay not know was that he had just

First night Chip off the old

musical block

erected a lamppost, and like so many-drunks they had walked Patrick Wintour and David Sharrock traight into it. "Those were the words of Margaret Beckett" Mr Major HE Irish foreign min-ister, Dick Spring,

announced triumphantly. Moments later Mr Blair made some other point which was received with groans by the Tories.

ernment's call for elections to a Northern Ireland body, but "I was quoting John Red-wood!" he declared with only if the Unionists give guarantees that they will not

accept

was reluctantly edg-ing last night towards

ance of the British gov-

Apart from the fact that put up further blocks to allmany Tory MPs regard Mr Redwood as the true Leader o party talks. Mr Spring, speaking at the end of difficult four-hour talks in London with the Northern Ireland Secretary, the Opposition, this business of cross-quoting the other side's speeches is getting out of hand. Soon whole debates Sir Patrick Mayhew, insisted neither side had moved subwill consist of out-of-context selections, like those ransom stantially from their previous notes put together from news positions. However, he im-plied that his government

Mr Blair returned to insist might back elections if the Unionists were forced to give that the extra cost of administrators in the NHS was now £1 billion. "Why does he spend it cast-iron assurances that once the elected body was es-tablished it would hold full on bureaucrais, company cars and pen-pushers, and not on negotiations, including with Sinn Fein, and not again make a start to IRA decomnurses, doctors, patients and beds?" he asked. Mr Major affected disdain. The money was being spent on patients, he said, but for that missioning a pre-condition. Unionist refusal to talk to Sinn Fein prior to a start to

decommissioning has already blocked all-party talks due to to happen the resources had to "Until you realise that, you start this month. The Ulster Unionist leader

will keep asking questions which are quite literally senseless!" he exclaimed. David Trimble, speaking after separate 75-minute talks with Mr Major at Downing Street, insisted that he would be will-Mrs Beckett realised that, which is why she disagreed with you, and why she has ing to hold a dialogue with disappeared from public life. Sinn Fein once the party had won a fresh mandate and Another Tory crawler seats in the proposed body. He said the body could be in asked about the assisted places scheme. Mr Major replied that he had thought Labour was opposed to the ar-rangement — "until Mr Blair place by May, and argued that two Commons bills would be eded, one to establish the body and a second to set up an independent verification com-mission, responsible for over-seeing the dismaniling of save an assisted place in the adow Cabinet to Harriet Harman" — a reference to the fact that she was at one time

co-opted rather than voted onto that body. And she will be lucky to be voted onto it again. paramilitary weapons. He asserted: "By taking the route of an elected body, one obviates the need for decom-The Tories booed and jeered and shouted. It was that stage missioning before elections but the need for decommis-sioning does not disappear. in the train journey from hell where the fans wave their The likelihood is that we will agers in your face and say. reach a situation whereby the decommissioning will take place alongside the elected 'Ere, wozza marrer wiv 'im? Suddenly the mood shifted. Alf Morris (Lab, Wythen-

place body. However, Mr Spring, due to meet Sir Patrick again next Wednesday, was less upbeat. "The reservations still remain but at the same time we are prepared to discuss the proposals," he said.

He insisted it would be better to follow the recommendations of the international Mitchell Commission, and said any elections would have to lead to talks within the three-stranded process, meaning the Irish government would still have a direct role. In Washington yesterday the Sinn Fain leader Gerry Adams met President Clinton

during talks with US officials.

he said. "I want an election

focused upon the issues that concern the people of Britain. I want an election fought on the high ground." Dr Mawhinney comment-

Mourners and riot police clash as republican's funeral ends in stand-off

The Guardian Friday February 2 1996

Richard Williams

............................ **Creative Jazz Orchestra** Queen Elizabeth Hali

O DOUBT Charles Ives would have been pleased by the weekend festival of his marvellous and under-performed music held at the Barbican last month; but he would have been aston ished and delighted by what happened to four of his pieces at the Queen Elizabeth Hall. Under the direction of the Rhodesian-born composer Mike Gibbs, the 16-piece Creative Jazz Orchestra held a dif ferent light up to Ives and discovered evidence to support the belief of those who feel that he belongs not alongside Aaron Copland and Samuel Barber but with a strain of mayerick American musicians including Howlin' Wolf, Moondog, Harry Parch, **Ornette Coleman and Captain** Beefheart.

There is something in Ives's music that seems not only to summarise everything that went before it but to predict practically everything that came afterwards. So it was really no surprise to discover a piece such as Barn Dance — with its pioneering bitonality, its rattling synco-pations and its dizzying flashcuts — so perfectly suited to the timbre and attack of a jazz orchestra. Even better, Gibbs took the risk of interrupting the hanging string cadences of The Unanswered Question with abrupt blasts of brass and woodwind, as though one radio station were randomly cutting into another. This effect would have pleased his father, George Ives, a fascinat-

Psychologists aid undercover police suffering stress

Duncan Campbell

UNDERCOVER police are shortly to see psycholo-gists because of the pressures of the double life they lead. according to the officer who

runs undercover policing at the Metropolitan police. There is a danger such offi-

ing on Mr Blair's speech said: "This hysterical speech is the sort that a man would make says Detective Chief Inspec-tor Peter North, head of the when he is starting to crack. undercover policing section of the Crime Operations Unit "No serious politician would suggest that everyone will have to pay for the NHS, (formerly SO10). In an interview with the Scotland Yard publication, every homeowner will have negative equity and that every individual in the the Metropolitan Journal, Mr North says 384 undercover op-erations were undertaken by the Met last year and that officountry will need their own private security in their

home, at work and at play. This is divorced from cers may start to like the cers may have to adopt a criminals they are pursuing, guise for as long as a year. reality.

ing figure who invented what was to become one of his son's most celebrated orchestral effects when he persuaded a couple of brass bands to march towards and past each other in the square of his home town while playing different pieces of music. If Barn Dance made you think of what Charles Ive might have done with the Duke Ellington Orchestra, The Unanswered Question prompted a fantasy of his the report. father let loose among the dig-ital technology of samples and ncers. The other composer whose Major escapes leadership

music was subjected to the extended scrutiny of Gibbs and the ensemble was Mark-Anthony Turnage, whose pieces are in any case marked by his fondness for the medium.

continued from page 1 back of the schooling of the 11-year-old child of a Labour MP. A fragment by Oliver Knus sen — who, like Gibbs and Confronting the repeated Turnage, studied with Gun-ther Schuller, the inventor of Tory attacks on Ms Harman, and her choice of a selective the 50s jazz-classical fusion school for her child, he said: "It was not an 11-year-old boy that had cost people their movement known as Third Stream — was tweaked until it jobs, their homes and their businesses. It was not an 11-year-old boy who had raised taxes — it was a 17-year-old sounded a sort of celestial bebop cooked up by Charlie Parker and Igor Stravinsky, prefacing a furious duet be-Mr Blair, speaking to party members in West London in advance of a Shadow Cabinet ween Dixon and the orches tra's guest musician, the American drummer Peter Er skine, whose propulsion and coloration were immaculate

strategy meeting today, accused the Tories of demean ing the name of government. Using the kind of campaign Gibbs also conducted a handful of his own pieces, no-tably Turn of the Century, a message of fear that has worked successfully for the Tories in previous general elections. Mr Blair warned deceptively ingratiating airport-lounge boogaloo. Overail, the success of the project could be gauged by the difficulty of that "Britain is not safe with telling where Ives, Turnage or Knussen left off and Gibbs the Tories". "Jobs are not safe. The health service is not safe. Our

began. This review appeared in children's future is not safe. The fifth term is the danger," later editions yesterday

throughout.

of an all-party report on resolving the Northern Ire-land conflict by the Dublin Forum for Peace and Reconciliation seems likely to cause further conflict when Sinn Fein withholds its approval today. The 5,000 word document was due to have been formally adopted by all the parties participating in the forom, but Sinn Fein's diffi-culties over the principle of serving as chief of staff of serving as chief of staff of its military wing, the Irish National Liberation Army, consent continue to bedevil

challenge before election

murder of the republican leader Gino Gallagher heightened last night after his funeral was postponed when fighting broke out between mourners and riot police, writes David Sharrock.

The Henusworth byelection in a strong West Yorkshire mining community had been

caused by the death of the Labour MP Derek Enright,

but most interest in the cam-paign had been created by the

intervention of the Socialisi

Labour Party, largely founded by the miners' leader. Arthur

Scargill. In his speech last night Mr

Blair played on Mr Scargill's desertion of Labour, saying it

showed the desperation of the Tories that they still claimed

elect Blair and you get

John Trickett, the Labour candidate and leader of Leeds

City Council, was backed by an unusual number of big

party guns for a safe seat, with Mr Blair, John Prescott

and more than half the

shadow Cabinet canvassing to

keep the majority as close as possible to Mr Enright's

22,075 (70.8 per cent) at the 1992 general election.

The party's scare at the pre-

vious Hemsworth byelection

in 1991 - when the Liberal

Democrats capitalised on local disillusion with solid Labour rule - was repe

this time at the hands of Mr

The miner's leader ran a high-profile campaign for his

new Socialist Labour Party,

party, due to be launched in Manchester in May, with a lo-cally well-known candidate in

Mrs Brenda Nixon, a leader of

the Women Against Pit Clo-

General election 1992: Derek

Enright (Lab) 29,942, Garnet Harrison (Con) 7,867, Valerie

Megson (Lib Dem) 4,459.

Labour majority 22,075. Turn

sures movement.

out 75.9%.

Scargill'

Scargill

ENSION surrounding the [

rally outside the dead carried from the family man's home today, when they will again attempt to Belfast, flanked by give him a paramilitary-style send-off. around their faces (above). Sinn Fein entered the fray by issuing a statement condemning the police actions. Republican actions. Republican sources said it was backing the much smaller IRSP because it was afraid of being "left behind".

David Beresford in Johannesburg

their return.

Police wearing riot gear and carrying wooden trun-cheons clashed with mourners as they attempted to display. A nine-year-old boy who

tal. The coffin and colour party retreated inside the house and a stand-off home in Poleglass, west Belfast, flanked by men wearing black berets, sun-glasses and dark scarves ensued until it became too dark to continue. Kevin McQuillan, spokes-man for the IRSP, his head broised and bloodied, said the funeral would not go aboad until the police

pulled back. Superintendent Ian Wil-liamson said: "Unfortu-Ireland.

The fighting broke out as | was injured during the | nately there are people here

clear to them that it isn't acceptable." Mr Gellagher was shot dead at a social security benefit office on the Falls Road on Tuesday. He had made no secret of his view that the ceasefire was lead-ing republicans away from their objectives of a united

should be a paramilitary-style funeral. We made

PHOTOGRAPH: PAUL BATES

S Africa seeks return of old heads

appealed for supporters to | Mr Gallagher's coffin was | fighting was taken to hospi- | who are insisting that it

N A bizarre variation on this week to hand over the pickled corpse of the "Hotten-tot Venus", Saartjie Bartman, kept at the Musee de l'Homme the Elgin Marbles contro-versy. South Africa is preparing to demand the return of five human heads discovin Paris after she had been ered in Britain's Natural His-

paraded as a circus freak in the early 19th century. And a South African chief and witchdoctor is currently tory Museum. The preserved heads, complete with their original akin and glass eyeballs, are thought to be the remains of Khoisan people executed or killed in battle by British troops in the mid-19th and which doesn's currently on his way to Scotland, with the blessing of President Nel-son Mandela, in search of the head of an ancestor he sus-pects is being held as a tro-phy. Nicholas Gcaleka insists that termbled accepted prints century. The museum has indicated that it is not prepared to sur-render them for reburial. But that troubled ancestral spirits are guiding him in his hunt

a South African minister says she is planning to fight for years ago. The five heads at the Natu-The discovery of the heads

comes as a new sense of South African nationalism is findral History Museum were found in cardboard boxes in a

ing a focus on the remains of indigenous people beld in Europe as souvenirs and mu-seum exhibits. Pretoria asked the French history and culture of the history and culture history and culture history and cultur

Khoisan people — popularly known as "Bushmen". The heads appeared to have been professionally prepared by a taxldermist.

The museum, which is pre-vented by the British Mu-seum Act from disposing of any part of its collection, is not only adamant that the beads cannot be returned, but refused permission for them — or photographs of them — to be placed in the South Afri-can exclution on grounds of sensitivity. But the ANC's deputy min-

ister of arts, culture, science and technology, Brigitte Ma-banda, says she is prepared to campaign for the return of the heads. "We have not yet de-

vised a coherent policy on the

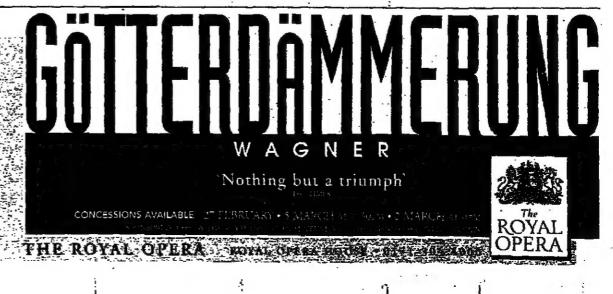
African government took the "conscience position" that such remains should be returned for burial with dig-nity. Ideally the burial would

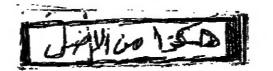
be at a cometery with an on-site museum recording 'the science and history' associ-ated with the remains.

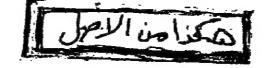
A request for the return of the "Hottentot Venus" was made this week by the minis ter of arts. culture. science and technology, Dr Ben Ngu-bane, at a meeting with the French minister of co-opera tion, Jacques Godrain. Mr Ngubane said the return of the remains would "mark the

beginning of the process of healing and restoring our national dignity and humanity

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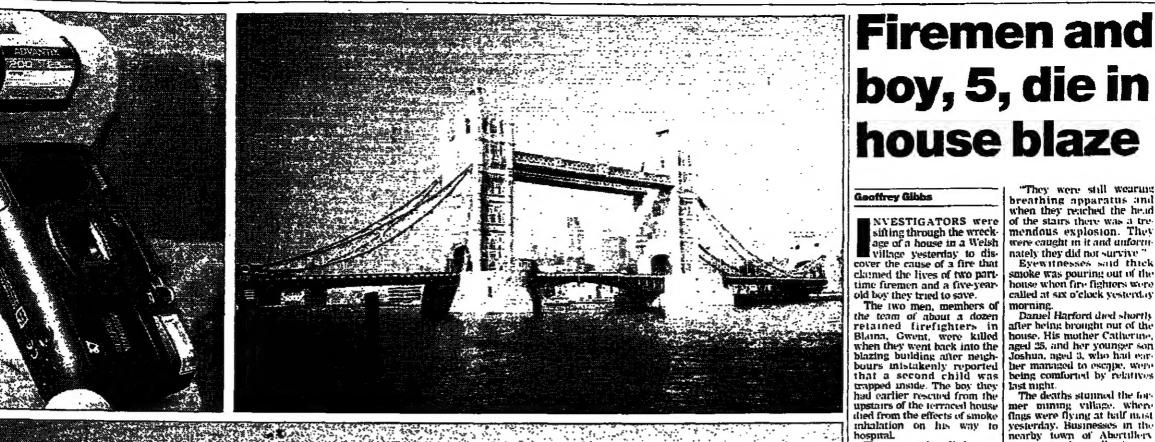


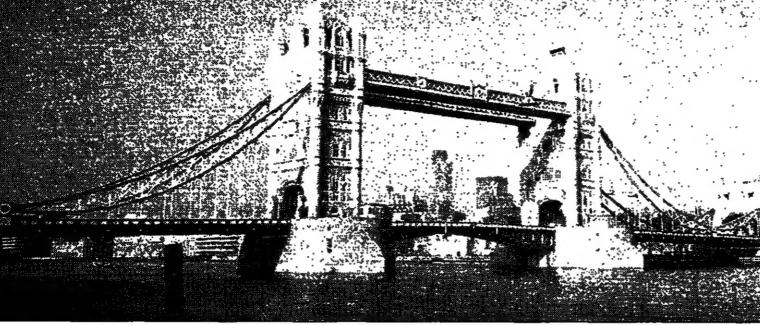




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The Guardian Friday February 2 1996





AT first touch, Kodak's APS cameras (top left) feel very like their compact 35mm rivals. After a few minutes their smaller size and lighter weight become apparent, writes Nicholas Bannister.

They live up to their simple point-and-shoot goal, and there is no doubt that putting a new film in is a much shorter task than with a 35mm camera. But by far the most interesting fea-ture is the ability to switch

etween three different shapes for pictures. When I chose, for example. the panoramic shape (above) the image in the viewfinder was cropped ac-cordingly. There was no need to look for faint lines

indicating the picture shape, and it added a new dimension to picture com-position. I took the standard shape photograph (top right) from the same viewpoint. Whether APS lives up to

across the frame after the cas-

the camera. The negatives are

returned within the original

had "warned that publication

might put at risk the lives of Press staff in Athens, and of

Cambridge University per-

dics) met on 1 December 1995

to decide what to do, they were told that MI6 was wor-

ried about the possible effects

of publication on Greek pub-lic opinion and the conse-

quent risks to British inter-

ests. They were reminded of a handful of attacks on British

interests in Greece including the murder of a British Coun-

The Syndics saw copies of a letter from Britain's charge d'affaires in Athens, Christo-

pher Denne, in which he said reaction to publication could range from "public criticism, protests and demonstrations,

or violence or threat of vio-lence against the author or publishers". Mr Denne admit-

ted no British official had

When a committee of senior Cambridge University aca-demics (known as the Syn-

sonnel in Greece."

cil official in 1985.

sette has been dropped into

tent, there is no great advantage justifying paying over the odds. The real advantages are

likely to come in later models with features such as the ability to spell out very spe-cific captions. But some, such as the ability to record short sound-bites, are probably little more than a mar-keting gimmick.

claimed the lives of two partsmoke was pouring out of the time firemen and a five-year-old boy they tried to save. house when fire fighters were called at six o'clock yesterday morning. Damel Harford dual shorthy The two men, members of the team of about a dozen retained firefighters in Blaina, Gwent, were killed after being brought out of the house. His mother Catherine, aged 25, and her younger son Joshua, aged 3, who had ear-her managed to escape, were being comforted by relatives when they went back into the blazing building after neighbours mistakenly reported that a second child was trapped inside. The boy they last night. had earlier rescued from the The deaths stunned the forupstairs of the terraced house died from the effects of smoke mer mining village, where flags were flying at half must yesterday. Businesses in the nearby town of Abertillery inhalation on his way to

VESTIGATORS were sifting through the wreck-age of a house in a Welsh

hospital The men who died were Stephen Griffin, aged 42, and have started a collection to help to buy essential items for the bereaved mother. Mr Glossop sold the fire service was "dreadfully shocked and saddened" at the Kevin Lane, aged 32, Both were from Blaina and had children. Gwent Chief Fire Officer

Terry Glossop said the two men knew of the conditions when they went back to look loss of two respected and wellliked colleanues for the second child but had Union records, yesterday's di-saster brings to 20 the numnot hesitated "Tragically, there was no one else in the house but these two colleagues did not think for one minute of them

ber of firefighters who have died on duty since 1990 • There are 14,792 retained firefighters in England and Wales, paid an annual retainer of £1,500 with extra own safety. They were doing what they joined the service to do - to save life. payments when called out.

Tesco chain shuts up shop to **Buy None Get 189 Free thief**

Alex Bellos

BRITAIN'S most prolific shoplifter - who once stole 189 bottles of drink from a single store in a few hours was banned yesterday from all Tesco supermarkets. A resigned Jim Heritage, aged 37, said after the High Court hearing in London: "Where can I go now? Shoplifting is the one thing I know." The divorced father-of-two from Coventry, who was

ployed and was represented at yesterday's brief hearing by the Citizens' Advice Bureau, consented to the injunction. He said there was no point challenging the supermarket chain. Afterwards he said he would try and give up again as he wanted to avoid adding to the five years he has spent in jail. He has been prosecuted 40 times but claims to have got away with countless more thefts.

NEWS 3

"They were still wearing breathing apparatus and

then they reached the head of the stairs there was a tre-mendous explosion. They

were caught in it and unform-

nately they did not survive Eventtnesses said thick

According to Fire Brigade

He said: "I know every indibarred in 1994 from the Sains-bury's chain and is not vidual suffers from it through their pocket but, in my eyes, allowed in his local shops, has I'm not hurting anyone indibeen imprisoned 10 times in 22 years for stealing bottles of vidually. Boredom starts it off but then adrenalin keeps me going. Adrenalin is the worst

drug in the world." A Tesco spokesman said:

Kodak launches the Box Brownie of the 21st century

cholas Bannister ogy Editor

censed the technology, which films and processing equip-is based upon a 24mm film. The aim is to create smaller stagnant photographic photographic foolproof compact cameras met. The APS film is pushed to the first of the grant to the first of the sector A transparent magnetic out of the cassette and fed

the hype depends on how difficult people find loading their existing cameras. If you are reasonably compe

last attempt to launch a rently dominate the market. new film format before cus- Kodak, the driving force be tomers abandon traditional hind the new system, un-

HE photographic indus-

The Advanced Photo System day after George Eastman tem, launched yesterday, has been developed by Kodak, Ni-kon, Canon, Minolta and Paul kon, Canon, Minolia and Fuji, but more than 90 per cent of the industry has already li- which involves new cameras,

with more features than on try has got together in a the 35mm cameras which curstrip running the length of the filmstores information about each shot, some of Kodak, the driving force bewhich will be used to improve

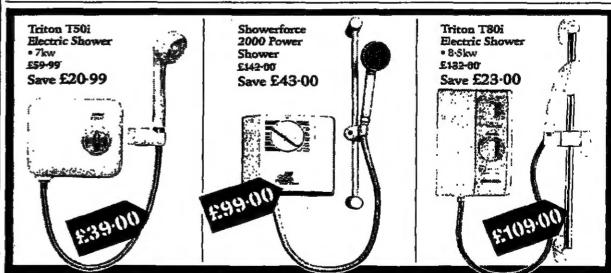
calculations automatically made by processing equip-ment. The more expensive models will store captions. film cassette, and an index print shows the number of each picture. APS camera owners can The APS system has been

select any one of three differdesigned so that users never see the negatives. Research showed that problems with dard. Top of the range models

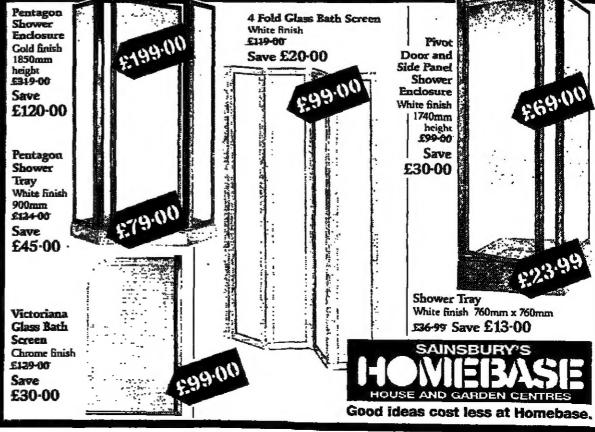
es mid-film. Kodak has developed eight

types of APS camera, of per cent more expensive. Pro-which four, costing between cessing would also cost more.

per cent more than 35mm by paying him to advise secu-equivalents, with film up to 20 per cent more expensive. Pro-cessing would also cost more. Heritage, who is unem-trite staff. But he carried on have no other way of protect-ing our property. Stealing is stealing."



Homebase shower offers. They make the others want to throw in the towel.



Monday-Thursday 8am - 8pm - Friday 8am - 9pm - Saturday 8am - 8pm - Sunday 10am - 4pm it All sates are approximate and not to scale. Merchandro subject in analyticity "Except Walson on Thames which closes 8pm Friday and 6pm Saturday "Electric Coydon, Kene Cambedry High Wycombe Newthampton, Levis, Newtonkton, Mult Hill and Solikuli which open Ham - 5pm and Hermiston Gau and Falsick which open 9am - 6pm.

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Academic uproar at banned book

Leonard Doyle on an anthropological study that a university fears puts its staff in danger

1eads

AMBRIDGE University Press is refusing to publish an important new work on Greek anthropology following advice from Cambridge University Press: the security services and the Foreign Office that publicacould lose authors to US tion could provoke a terrorist attack against Cambridge book "represents an unac

ceptable restriction of aca-demic freedom", which would University staff in Greece. The decision has provoke damage the Press's reputa-tion and "encourage irrespon-sible individuals to threaten the safety of scholars". outrage and incredulity in acdemic circles and is ex-

pected to have wider reper-cussions for the CUP's reputation as an academic publisher. The editorial board for the CUP's anthropology series has resigned in protes and leading academics are warning that the Press's 40by officials at the British emyear history of publishing im bassy in Athens and from its chief salesman in Greece. Craig Walker. No Greeks portant works of this kind could end if authors turn instead to US publishers. The book, entitled Fields of Wheat, Hills of Blood, deals were co

views of the British or US academic experts canvassed. The with the thorny issue of Macedonian identity. It is an eth-nographic study of villages in CUP's actions are also understood to have been motivated by fears of a boycott affecting northern Greek which contraa jucrative market for its books and revenue from set-ting some 300,000 English dicts the official line that there is no Slavo-Macedonian minority in Greece. exams in Greece every year. Anthony Wilson, chief exec-utive of Cambridge Universi-In tendering his resigna-

tion, Michael Herzfeld, the tion, MICHAEL HETZIELL, LINE ARTHONY WISON, CHIEF EXEC-British-born professor of an-thropology at Harvard Uni-versity, said censoring the decision was made not to pub-

A CONTRACTOR OF STREET



Series founder Jack Goody: signalled intention to resign

lish the book, but refused to explain on what grounds. The Greek-born author, An-astasia Karakasidou, received death threats two years ago for publishing her research on the Slavic speakers of Greek Macedonia, raising The decision to pull the book at the last minute folissues central to Greece's dis-pute with the neighbouring lowed an extraordinary former Yugoslav republic of Macedonia. Her researches request by senior officials at the CUP in Cambridge for a revealed that there were vil-"terrorist threat assessment"

The Foreign Office says it never advised the CUP not to lagers in northern Greece who speak a Slavic tongue and consider themselves culpublish but that "we were turally "Macedonians". asked a difficult question and Internal Cambridge Univer-

sity Press documents obtained by the Guardian, reveal the Press was so concerned about the risk of "terrorist violence" that it felt there was a "moral imperative" not to publish In a memorandum dated 12 January, a CUP executive. Jessica Kuper, stated that "it was im-possible to discount the ad-

we gave an honest answer which we stand by." After the decision not to publish, two senior members of the Press's editorial board. Prof Herzfeld and Professor Stephen Gudeman of the University of Minnesota, immediately resigned. While in the UK. Cambridge professor Jack Goody, the founder of the series, signalled his intenvice received from the British tion to quit if the embassy in Athens" which not rescinded. tion to quit if the decision was

nited, nor were the

The smoothly efficient First Lady we see before us, with her chameleon-like blonde hairdos and charismatic smile, is actually a drag queen, the magnificent final product of a long process of self-transformation from butch to femme. Camille Paglia

Review cover story

4 BRITAIN

The Guardian Friday February 2 1996

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Performing Right Society sharply criticised by monopolies commission over live performances, reports Sally Weale

Royalties 'opt-out' urged for pop stars

royalties worth £170 million every year on behalf of 29,000 British composers and songwriters, was yester-day heavily criticised in a Monopolies and Mergers Commission report which highlighted a catalogue of in-

iencies and inadequacies. The society, which repre-sents composers and music publishers from stars like Paul McCartney to littleknown folk song writers and jazz musicians, is being asked to comply with 44 recommen-dations — far more than in the average commission

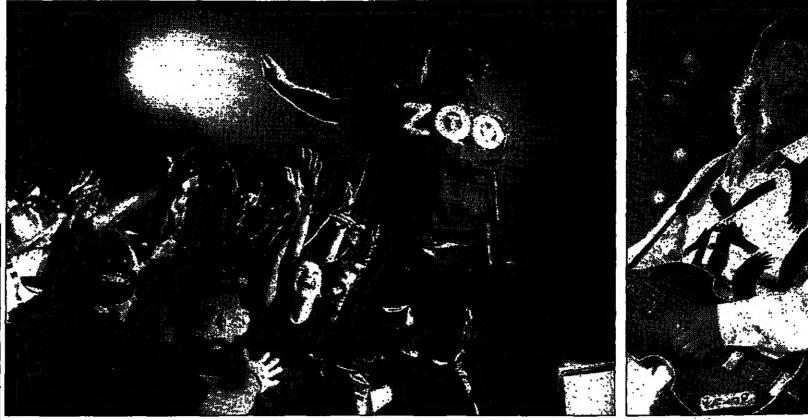
In particular, it urges the society to allow members to administer their own rights in respect of live perfor-mances. This could see big name acts opting out to look after their own royalties, taking huge sums of money with them, and challenging the so-ciety's exclusive position.

HE Performing Right Society, which col-lects and distributes and claim that if they controlled the rights to live per-formances of their songs they could make more money and get paid more quickly than under the current arrangement,

The concern, however, is that less popular composers whose works are performed live in thousands of small venues may lose out, should the society find the cost of col-lecting relatively small sums prohibitively expensive. The commission was called in to investigate the Perform-ing Right Society in Novem-ber 1994, following an ap-proach by the Office of Fair

Trading which had received a number of complaints from society members alleging unfair practices and administra-tive inefficiency. Some had complained about the level of administra-

tion fees, others claimed the method of collecting royalties favoured some composers at Members of the Irish rock | the expense of others. live performances.



Discord ... Bono (left), of U2, which is fighting the PRS, and Paul McCartney, whose fortune is almost all based on royalties

The PRS, which was founded by a group of music hall composers in 1914, has a monopoly on the collection of royalties for musical perfor-mances, live and broadcast, in the UK. The commission's under way. The issue of opt-outs for

recommendations could, how-ever, lead to a fragmentation of the system with regard to nembers who wish to administer their own rights in respect of live performances is being considered before

Yesterday, the PRS ac-knowledged some of the criti-cisms and said over a third of the recommendations had been carried out, with others

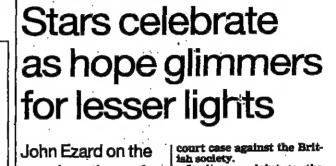
serve the needs of an enor-mously wide range of writers and music publishers. This inquiry has been one of sev-eral points in history where ety of Musicians, one of the organisations which has been critical of the PRS. "The PRS has improved over the past year or so ... but it's still got we have benefited from taka lot of sorting out to do."

Consumer affairs minister John Taylor said the director general of the Office of Fair Trading, John Bridgeman, would be consulting the PRS to ensure that the report's recommendations were car-

evidence of inefficiency arising from deficiencies in corporate structure and manage

Industry could make an order "The [commission] find that composers, publishers and music users have bene-fited greatly from the work of the PRS. But they also find artichece of inefficiency aris ried out. If insufficient progress had been made after four months, the Department of Trade and ment practices," he said.

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John Ezard on the reverberations of the report from U2 gigs to local hops

PHOTOGRA

OR the rock group U2, yesterday's Monopo-lies and Mergers Com-mission report is worth

"You've made my day — I'm delighted," the Irish group's manager, Paul McGuinness, rejoiced when the Guardian told him its mendations. It reminded him of the "tantalising" moment

In its complaint to the commission, the group said the society collected only 50 per cent of money owed and took more than three years to pay this. For the English Folk Dance and Song Society --

which is also rejoicing the report means at least an extra £1,102 a year. This is the difference between the £1,200 it received from the society in July 1993 when its songwriting mem-bers were allowed to report performances of their work - and the £98 it got last July after the society uni-laterally withdrew this sys-

when his musicians grossed | tem of notification. venné in Bren



ing member of the society, complained to the commission that the PRS was acting unfairly. For the 100 PRS members in the 250-strong Associa-tion of British Jazz Musi-

cians, the report could mean a total £70,000 extra a year. The association com-plained of the same injus-tice as the EFDSS — the PRS's recent reliance on share-outs based on a sample of performances a men will have sprung up to see that the money is chan-venues. The jazz composers, like folk songwriters, say this system leaves out most of

wrote the songs. The British Performing system leaves out most of the small gigs, folk eve-nings and ceilidhs at which their work was played. One south London jazz planist's yearly PRS income has fallen by £340 — "not much for Paul McCartney but enough to pay a gas bill," said Chris Hodgkins, association di-rector of jazz services. And although McCart-Right Society takes a lower percentage. But the group still blames it for failing to distribute large sums to them. "What happened to them. "What happened to us in Italy was essentially because of a European sys-tem the fuddy-duddy Brit-ish society failed to crack". Mr McGuinness said.

"We kept protesting to them, trying to get them to ney's £400 million personal collect the money owed to s, but they reacted by retiring into their daft way of doing things." Hence U2's longstanding high pared to their ope.

'Dazzling' first Bacon found

THIS is a self-portrait of the artist in his youth as never seen before, writes Gary Younge. The late Francis Bacon World because the self-critical The late Francis Bacon (above) painted the picture of himself in 1930 when he was 21 — and then hid it from col-lectors for more than so years. years. The small oil painting, mea-suring only 15% in by 11in, was discovered by art writer Angus Stewart, who has spent six years trying to trace Bacon's early works. kept this self-portrait for 50

often bought back works he had sold when he was young simply to get rid of them. He charged 45 guiness for the self-portrait at the time, but it may now fetch over £250,000. Mr Stewart said: "It is a

Mr Stewart, curator of the Francis Bacon and Henry Moore Exhibition at next month's Fine Art and Antiques Fair in Olympia, Lon-don, now plans to put the pic-something to him."

dazzling work. It is the first painting by Bacon of any sig-nificance that we have. He

BRITAIN 5

'Murder inquiry is never closed. When new clues emerge we are duty bound to follow them up'



The body of John McInnes is carried away from his grave by police at Stonebonse, Strathclyde, for tests which could prove he was the 1968/69 serial killer "Bible John"

PHOTOGRAPH MURDO MACLEOD

Test on corpse could solve 26-year-old murder

Erlend Clouston

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MURDER trail that began 26 years ago in a brassy Glasgow dance hall led yesterday to a white plastic tent in the corner of a country graveyard.

In a scene unique in Scot-tish criminal history, Strath-clyde police dug up the 15-year-old corpse of a man many suspect of being a serial unit is in the scheme in the scene in the scheme in the

killer. Whether yesterday's exca-vation in the anow-covered Stonehouse graveyard results in a belated judgment against John McInnes depends on tests which will compare his DNA with stains recently detected on the clothing

disinterment. It took four hours for the squad of gravediggers to retrieve Mr McInnes's skele-ton. The work was hampered by the frozen soil and the fact that his mother was buried above him.

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"This is not something that never closed; when new evi-

dence emerges; we are duty bound to follow it up." In the congested country lans-outside the cemetery, a spirit hunter hinted that the arkshire undertakers until it police effort might have been misdirected. "The killer was is deemed appropriate to return her.

cabre touch to yesterday's | tre of the village where Mr Mcinnes's brother Hector still lives. There is an undercurrent of resentment at the high profile the case has acquired. "They've turned it into a soap opera," complained a pensioner outside the Stone-house grocers. "I knew the

house grocers. I knew the family: Gospel Hall people who never did anybody any harm. Mind you." he added, "you always get the rebel." Just after 11am the remains of Mr McInnes's mother were removed from her eight-year-old grave, placed in a new light oak coffin, and slipped into the back of a silver Volvo estate. She will lie at a Lan-

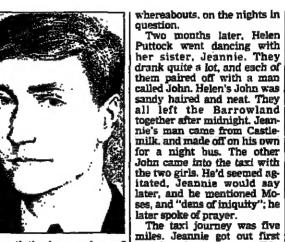
'Bible John, ghoul who murdered Scotland's innocence'. Andrew O'Hagan reports on serial killer

way of talking. It wasn't un-usual to hear them warn their dight is hear mem warn hear misbehaving kids that if they dight stop their carry on, Bible John would get them. That's what Bible John had

become by then; a local ghoul, a bogeyman. He was out there somewhere - part of the fam-iliar things, threateningly near to hand, but in fact, completely unknown. He was perhaps Scotland's first serial killer — cartainly

N THE 1970s harassed Scot-tish mothers had a certain auxiliary nurse called Pat Docker, aged 25, went for a night out at the Majestic Ballroom in Hope Street. It is understood that she changed her mind and went instead to Glasgow's biggest and rowdi-est dancehall, the Barrow-land. Nothing more is really

known about Helen, except that her naked body was found in a south side lane early the following day. She'd been strangled, and a used sanitary towel lay near her



An artist's impression of

whereabouts, on the nights in | emerge that they were also question. stained with semen.

The presence of the three women at the same dancehall, the way in which they were strangled, the fact of their menstruation, the sightings of two of the women in the company of this well dressed, light haired man — all of it pointed to one killer. People at any rate, seemed to want to think of him as one man.

The newspapers, on hear ing of Jeannie's journey with the man, took to calling him Bible John.

It was to become Scotland's largest and most detailed manhunt. The whole city was gone over, but nothing emerged to suggest the iden-tity of the man.

and the other two went off in

Helen Puttock, who was the third of three patrons of Glasarea, is still alive and some-thing to do with schools," her son, who committed suicommon fear of him almost Jemima McDonald went to spotted going into 35 Earl been many sightings of Bible Street. Helen's body was John. Certain "lookalikes" cide in 1980 at the age of 41, started out on their journey single handedly ended the the Barrowland on August 16, was observed, she'd been menstruating. Police descended on the gow's Barrowland ballroom claimed Sean Farraig, head of sexual innoncence of the 1969. She was seen at one to the Glasgow pathology labfound in the back court of had to be given special cards the Glasgow Psychic Centre. point sitting on a sofa in the to be strangled between Feb-1960sthat address early the following morning. Her clothes were torn, she was beaten, strangled, and she had a used sanitary towel Suddenly, you couldn't just go to dancehalls and be with anybody. He became tied to ruary 1968 and October 1969, His companion was more oratory 15 miles to the north. company of a man with sandy Barrowland, but found few who had anything to say. It was a promiscuous world, full of women and men who'd left women and men at home and equivocal. "I do feel he has murdered more than one per-son. I cannot tell if he's Bible It will take up to three weeks for scientists to estabhair. He was neat and tall, with a clean white shirt on. when she was 29. The fact that her presumed people's sense of changing Glasgow. And his face became the nightmare visage for chil-itre nand parents alike. It seems to have started on it seems to have started on lish whether he is guilty of Helen Puttock's murder. For killer was rapidly dubbed Bible John from his fondness John," she whispered. for Old Testament quotations - and may be linked to the Stonehouse residents kept the moment, Supt Munn said, their distance. The cemetery the soul of Mr McInnes is not lies half a mile from the cen- facing any charges. earlier deaths — added a ma-PUBLIC SECTOR PAY: Uncertainty over finance for new deals raises fear of redundancies and general disruption creased reserves bring the surplus to 52 million. Ken Cameron, FBU general Settlement of schools into a fresh round An extra 1 per cent would automatically have to be added to that year's pay bells ripg' tween nine and 24 hours on 25 | million less than planned. In-**Firefighters**/ days since the dispute began last August, at a cost of of redundancies if the Government sticks to its guns Settlement of bells ring Merseyside over not providing addi-tional funding to cover pay. around £550,000 in police and settlement secretary, last night said that Teachers would be infuriarmy emergency cover. The Merseyside authority faces 3.8pc could over funding cuts were now threatening the operational side. He called dispute may ated by phasing, said David Hart, general secretary of the National Association of Local authorities estimate schools are already spread south

Seumas Milne Labour Editor

INDUSTRIAL action by firefighters looks set to spread from the North-west to the south of England, as it south of England, as it emerged that the job and boli-day cuts which provoked the five month dispute on Merseyside were based on faulty budget estimates. The Fire Brigades Union is

preparing strike ballots in Essex and Greater London, if expected budget cutbacks are ed this month. In London, 695 jobs out of 6,800 are threatened unless the Government agrees to come up with more money for the cash-strapped fire authority.

legal action from household-ers and businesses over fire damage on strike days. But a leaked internal report is horrendous that the people

to Merseyside's chief fire officer has revealed that the au-thority will have a £2 million surplus for 1995/96 and need never have made the £700,000 cutbacks.

A spokesman for the Merseyside Fire Authority However, after nine hours of talks with the Fire Bri-gades Union at the concilia-tion service Acas this week, said the figures had been "perfectly correct" when the budget was drawn up last February. "We couldn't have predicted this underspend." • Twenty thousand JobClub the authority refused to reverse the cuts because it says it may need the unex-pected surplus to cover a budclerical workers are to be bal-loted for an all-out strike get shortfall next year. The cut of 20 jobs and three days leave which led to the dispute were made as a result throughout the Employment Service in a dispute over pay.

job cuts and casualisation. The Civil and Public Serof an overestimate of firefighters retiring during 1985/ vices Association has agreed 96. With savings on pension to step up its industrial action and lump sum payments, programme, with rolling

Merseyside firefighters Merseyside fire Authority is regional strikes cubminating have staged walkouts of be now set to spend over £1.4 in an indefinite stoppage.

whole dispute was completely

unnecessary."

mean job cuts on the Merseyside authority

Donald MacLeod of Merseyside have been put at risk over five months when it has now been shown the Education Correspon

School governors and parents were yesterday awaiting details of a teachers' pay settlement which could precipitate a second year of soaring class sizes and the loss of teaching posts. The Government's indications yesterday that the settlement will be just

under 4 per cent spread alarm among local authorities budgeting for a figure nearer to 3 per cent. But the possibility the award will be phased over 18 months would ease their numbers of pupils. Phasing education budget settle-problem. Mould give the problems of ment would become clear An unphased award of 3.8 paying for the award to a per cent could plunge new government in 1997. bill were included.

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10,000 short of the number of teachers needed to teach the national curriculum. "We can expect pyrotech-nics," said Graham Lane, education chairman of the Association of Metropolitan Authorities. Faced with an alliance beforce.

tween schools and parents over class sizes, the Cabinet is expected to phase the award over 18 months or "end load" an award, with part paid in April and part in January. This would cut about £100 million off the pay bill and make it man-ageable for the majority of local authorities. Schools would still face difficulties in many parts of the country because of rising

of awards Head Teachers. It was EALTH managers said that a 4 per cent pay recommendation, unless fully essential to recruit and retain teachers. Delaying or reducing the recommen-

funded by the Government, would have to be paid for dations of the Pay Review Body would send the wrong message to the teaching with cuts in services, writes Chris Mihill. Primary teachers have al-ready been alienated by the Nurses warned that if a deal similar to last year's was proposed, it would cause a way the Government has put them in the dock over the test results for 11 year olds and teachers' action fresh wave of disputes broughout the health

entice. over pay and/or testing Last year nurses were recommended — and awarded — a 3 per cent rise, but only 1 per cent of it was paid nation-ally and the rest left to local this summer would, Conservatives calculate, be more damaging for Labour than the Government. negotiation. Ten months after settlement date, 24 NHS trusts David Blunkett, Labour's education spokesman, said the sleight of hand over the are still refusing to pay the extra 2 per cent in full.

This year nurses asked for 8 per cent and doctors between

are concerned that there might be strings attached to this year's deal, such as moves towards local pay bar-gaining, which they bitterly oppose, seeing it as a further fragmentation of the service. A spokeswoman for the National Association of Health Authorities and Trusts pointed out that the Government's estimates of inflation were running at about

3 per cent. "If pay exceeds 3 per cent we need to take account of the fact that this may threaten growth monies. We may have to fund part of the award through cost improvment programmes. If it is above 3 per cent and is not fully funded, it will set alarm bells ringing."

A spokeswoman for the Royal College of Nursing said the acceptability of a 4 per cent pay deal depended crucially on whether it was fully funded.

"There's is a world of different between every nurse getting a certain pay rise on April 1 and a deal they have 5 and 8 per cent. Doctors too | to fight for in every trust."

The construction company that will build the Newbury bypass has not yet been chosen.

Please write now or send a fax to the areas of outstanding beauty. chief executives of the companies tendering for the building contract (listed below).

Ask them to withdraw and to put our beautiful countryside before the profits of their shareholders.

Tell them you intend to buy a single

Colin Sunby - KIER GROUP PLC,

Peter Mason - ANSEC PLC, Sandiway House, Hartford, Northwide, Cheshire CWB 2YA. Fain 01606 883996

Other White ALFRED MACALPENE PLC, 8 Selfolk St, Loodon SW1Y 4HG. Fax: 0171 839 6902

Alan Love - COSTAIN GROUP PLC, 111 Westmi 111 Westminster Bridge Rd, London SE1 7UE. Fax: 0171 705 8599

share in the company that accepts this commission to buildoze protected nature reserves, historic sites and So that, from now on, they can expect you to attend their Annual General Meetings and ask them how they propose to repay their debt to the

country's natural heritage - if they bulldoze ahead now.

Cut traffic, not trees.

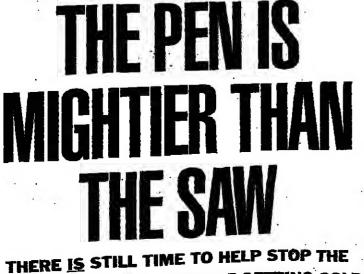


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NEWBURY BYPASS WITHOUT GETTING COLD AND MUDDY OR CLIMBING A TREE



vestigation began, there have in Scotstoun. They were last

6 WORLD NEWS bureaucrat as next PM

Italy names Drug squad snares only itself

John Hooper in Rome

HE Italian president. Oscar Luigi Scalfaro. yesterday asked a 71-year-old former bureaucrat to form a broadly based government with a brief to keep the country ticking over while politicians try to agree on reforming the constitution.

Antonio Maccanico is Itaities he mentioned were lower ly's "Sir Humphrey". A quietly spoken career civil inflation and a return to the European Monetary System. Before taking office, he will servant with a reputation for discretion, he was the right-hand man of two successive heads of state and a prime need to select a cabinet, draft a programme, and secure ade-quate parliamentary backing for both. But, judging by the generally favourable reaction of the majority of party lead-ers. he will have no difficulty minister.

He has an impressive reputation for inspiring trust in people of widely differing persuasions. But he is also quintessentially someone linked to the so-called First Republic - the weak and cor-rupt system of government that was meant to have ended at the general election two years ago.

ident. Even so, it is likely to take Mr Maccanico a month Though an entirely new political class come to the fore as a result of the poll, the rules under which its members were elected and under which the country is run had Cossia from 1978 to 1987, Mr Maccanico was made chair-man of Mediobanca, the influbarely been tampered with. That remains the situation.

With well over 20 parties more or less equally split be-tween left and right, the country has been unable to sustain an administration since the fall of Silvio Berluscont's rightwing cabinet at the end of 1994. Mr Maccanico was asked to form his government after three weeks of tor-tuous negotiations prompted by the fall of Lamberto Dini's non-party "government of

experts

minister in the Christian Democrat governments of Ciriaco De Mita and Giulio Andreotti from 1988 to 1991, though his political sympa-thies lay with the centrist Republican Party. In 1993, Mr Maccanico was elected to the senate as a Republican. He returned to government the same year.

ians with special permits

occupying the cabinet secre-tary's post under another stopgap prime minister, Carlo Azeglio Ciampi. But the final round of talks between President Scalfaro and party representatives did at least reveal a degree of con-

hurdles.

Sarajevo's bridge of unity lives up to its name again

Julian Borger in Sarajevo

were allowed to cross. It was also one of the city's ONE of the most graphic symbols of the Sarajevo most dangerous spots. Many of the upper-storey flats on both sides of the bridge were siege, the barricades on the Bridge of Brotherhood and converted into sniper nests. Nato officials hailed the Unity, were finally cast aside bridge's opening as a success for their "patient but tough" yesterday as hundreds of civillians crossed between government and Serb-held areas pressure on both sides. In the Serb-held suburb of Ilidza, however, the Nato-led Impleof the divided city for the first time in nearly four years.

Dutch police helped traffickers shift tonnes sensus that Italy might be bet-ter off with a directly elected of narcotics as dealers outwitted them, president and a two-round voting system along French

Mr Maccanico said the

country needed an adminis-tration which could "tackle

the most urgent questions fac-

ing the government during the time needed by parlla-

ment to carry out constitu-tional reforms". Among prior-

getting cross-party support. Success would avert the need for a return to the country at a time when most party chiefs have reason to be

wary of a vote. It would also provide a government for the

rest of Italy's term as EU pres-

or more to clear all the

After serving Presidents Sandro Pertini and Francesco

ential Milan-based merchant

bank. He later served as a

Paul O'Driscoll in Amsterdam reports HE Dutch justice system was sharply crit-icised yesterday for

helping smugglers import vast quanti-ties of illegal drugs into the Netherlands. Large amounts of these drugs, including cannabis, ec-stasy and cocaine, were then re-exported to Britain and other countries with the mowledge of the Dutch antinarcotics police, who failed to alert British customs. Only one shipment, a lorry-load of early 1990s and unwittingly began working for the crimiecstasy, was ever stopped. A parliamentary inquiry nais they had set out to catch.

year period ending last June, under the eyes of the anti-drugs police, known as the inter Regional Teams (IRT). The Van Traa parliamentary report released yester-day outlined a police plan which was designed to snare the Dutch-based drugs whole salers but which went bope-lessly awry. The police lost control of their scheme in the

allowed free transit into the Netherlands and on to neighbouring countries. More than 400 tonnes of cannabis a year were im-ported into the Netherlands. Only 300 tonnes is consumed

During that period, at least

£2 billion-worth of drugs were

each year, even under the country's relaxed drug laws, and more than half of that is home grown.

No drugs were ever recov-ered, and only one person was put behind hars for drugs trafficking. The justice minister, Win-pic Sortherson and the police nie Sorgdrager, and the police bore the main criticism for

failing to fight organised crime. The justice department was singled out for allowing thousands of ecstasy tablets to be shipped to Britain.

The route across the chan- | large amounts of drugs to es- | ness, the report said. Crimitablish themselves as poten-tial partners for existing drug nel was closed down only when British police madver barons. They were given imtently stopped a lorry driver carrying a cargo of the drug. But while the ecstasy route munity from prosecution and allowed to keep all profits, tax was partially closed, several

other routes remained open. The Amsterdam branch of the police and went to work for the drug barons. It was four years before the police found out they had been outthe IRT monitored four similar shipments but failed to tip off their English counter parts. Yet they paid an in-former £800,000 to keep an eye witted and at least 400,000 ki-lograms of marijuana and 10,000 kilograms of cocaine had been brought into the on the shipments. The report outlined new

rules and a restructuring of the Dutch judicial mechanism Netherlands. In one failed operation, police lost 20 roll-on roll-off to place greater emphasis on targeting criminal gangs. The disgraced IRT method saw police squads across the containers marijuana. country recruiting small-time dealers as spies. Many dealers

were encouraged to import

nologists estimate that more than 6,000 people are em-ployed full-time by the drugs gangs. The French and German

The Guardian Friday February 2 1996

free. But the plan backfired Hague to adopt a stronger when the spies double-crossed the police and went to work Jacques Chirac and Chancellor Helmut Kohl are to meet the Dutch prime minister. Wim Kok, in March to discuss

the issue. Officials maintain that all drugs brought in during the operation were consumed in the Netherlands. But a straw poll of local dealers contra-dicts that. The industrially treated cannabis favoured by containing the gange is regarded as of in-ferior quality in Amsterdam's coffee shops, and the local co-caine market remains small.

Four drug gangs which ben-efited from the five-year in-vestigation are still in busi-

German shrine to free speech under threat

Cyberspace is the censor's new forum, lan Traynor

in Cologne reports

IGHT by the main en trance to Cologne's ca-thedral. Walter Hermann's shrine to free speech is under threat.

is under threat. Five years ago last month, the homeless former art stu-dent, aged 57, inaugurated the "wailing wall" by the cathe-dral walls, a constantly changing exhibit featuring hundreds of cardboard "bricks" strung between tri-angular scaffolding on which anyone can write anything. The Church and the city au-The Church and the city au thorities have been trying ever since to muzzle him and ever since to muzzle him and evict the "democracy forum". Mr Hermann's idea has proved popular, even a tour-ist attraction. There are 800 inscribed "bricks" on display, written in many languages. Another 40,000 placards are stored in a Cologne bunker. But battle is raging in the But battle is raging in the city's courts. Last month, the judges ruled that Cathedral

re is coorci

they regard as an eyesore.

theatre of cyberspace.

phy via the Internet.

The company responded by barring access to 200 user groups, the first known instance of global cancorchin

tance of global censorship on the Internet because of the

Nazi propagandist who lives in Canada. "The new technology is forcing the hand of the law. It's a new development," says Professor Basil Markisinis, director of Oxford's new insti-

tute for the comparative study of European law, set up with German funding. If the Internet is the apothe-osis of free speech, Germany

looks bent on reining in the electronic frontiers to make what is available internationally conform with national

"The German constitution has a very nuanced set of rules which balance free speech against other conflicting interests," said Prof Markisinis. "There is no black-and-white approach that says free speech is every-thing, as with the American approach, or that reputation is everything, as with the English approach."

'If they tear down the wailing wall,

we'll build it again. This is a piece of

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revealed that hundreds of tonnes of drugs flooded into the Netherlands over a five-

Reunited families were locked in tearful embraces and policemen from opposing sides shock hands and chatted on the 30-yard concrete bridge, whose socialist name had until yesterday been a sick joke for those who live on either side.

Throughout the war, the bridge over the River Mil-jacka was Sarajevo's "Checkpoint Charlie", a heavily fortuled crossing point where, like its counterpart in Berlin, prisoners were exchanged and a small number of civil-

security after six sniping incidents in the district since Sunday. Including one in which a British soldier was struck on the wrist. • Richard Goldstone, the chief prosecutor of the United Nations war crimes tribunal for ex-Yugoslavia accused Serbia yesterday of failing to co-operate and expressed pes-simism about catching indicted Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic soon.

nentation Force is tacin

threat from rogue gunmen.

Nato troops tightened their

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A policeman admires the glant painting by the German artist Gotfrid Helnwein at the opening of his one-picture exhibition at St Petersburg's Russkiy Museum yesterday PHOTOGRAPH: ALEXANDER DEMANCHAK to close

Spontaneous fires spark fear in French toy town

The boffins are baffled and new age speculation abounds about the mystery fires which have brought terror - and death - to eastern France, reports **Alex Duval Smith** in Moirans

eastern France, reports Alex Duval Smith in Moirans

N THE toymaking capital of France, no one doubts the existence of Father Christmas. But as a series of inexplicable fires continues to sweep Moirans, thoughts are turning to Luctier. the afternoon.

For three weeks in this small town deep in the Jura mountains, household objects such as tins of food, garden furniture and a bag of cement have spontaneously burst into flames. Last week two people died after three fires broke out within seven hours

The best brains in France have been brought in to study what is known here as "the the fiction spreading like

phenomenon": small fires, with orange flames, which can ignite in drawers or airing cupboards and often appear to start on metal objects.

tricité de France, was receiv-ing a stream of residents. They wanted to return to their homes in Rue des Cares. heard that the people who died had suffered third-degree which has been struck eight times and was the scene of the burns under intact clothing, assumed it was just rumour But I gather it is true." fire which on January 20 At the bar in the cafe Chez Fred the chit-chat among and a fireman trying to

workers from the toy factory | rescue her.

'We pride ourselves in having our feet on the ground. But it is getting harder and harder to be rational. I assumed it was rumour, but I gather it is true.'

was interspersed with the vo-"In 30 years I have never cabulary of physicists. They were considering whether to known anything like this," Mr Grossiord said.

we a controversial "ion-He had just received data pride ourselves in having our ised hydrogen theory" or the discounting a widely held feet firmly on the ground But view — purportedly based on theory: that 20,000-volt elecpersons under in years Writer quotations available on request Abber pear to start on metal objects. feet firmly on the ground. But | VIEW — Durpornency Dased On a theory. Hat avoid on the symbol and the habit of a lifetime are in most of Europe, Thurs- it is getting harder and harder Armenian evidence — that tricity cables laid in the days are welcomed as a step to be rational. When I first seismic activity is disturbing ground last summer were

emitting high-tension current allows ionised hydrogen to The theory suggested this was turning metal-framed villas surface."

into micro-wave ovens. Mr Grossiord stopped short of admitting that all rational theories had been tested, but said: "All I can do for the moment is send my staff out with voltage meters again and keep monitoring all the transformer stations. Only one thing is clear amid the confused clues

Emile Battista, a witch doctor from the Pyrenees, said: "Only an exorcist sent from the Vati-can can save Moirans now." In a country where the fires of Hell have not been abolwhich have emerged since a small fire started on a coat-

ished, he found an attentive audience. But he discounted one theory, that if you stick a hanger in Charles Raffin's wardrobe at 3.15pm on January 7 — scientists and residents do not frust one anpin through the globe at Moirans, it emerges at Mururoa atoll, France's nuclear-testing other to find a solution. site in the South Pacific.

Most of the residents have come round to the "ionised Mr Battista said: "I think we have progressed from the days of believing in divine hydrogen theory", if only be-cause it is resisted by the sciretribution. entists. It was put forward A few doors away, Made-

last week by Jean Meunier, who describes himself as a leine Cordier, aged 82, was not discounting any theories. disciple of Haroun Tazieff, a French vulcanologist. Mr Meunier said: "What we The tiles on her roof slid off all at once on Saturday. "It was not a fire, but it was

are dealing with are telluric currents. Molrans sits on a not normal either;" she said. currents. Moirans sits on a "I am going to stay geophysical fault line which friends this weekend."

authorities may remove what

The vagrant's lawyers are appealing, insisting that the wailing wall is on public property. "This is a public, Germany is uneasy with American-style unfettered freedom of expression. Verbal incitement to racial hatred is a criminal offence, and public not a private matter," argues Mr Hermann. "What is at stake here is freedom of ex-pression and of assembly." denial of the Holocaust was criminalised following the racist violence after reunifi-

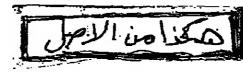
A world away from the homeless of Cologne, Ger-many's battle to balance the cation five years ago. The result is that victories for freedom of expression can public interest and the rule of law with freedom of expresgenerate outrage at the high-est levels of the democratic sion is also being played out, political elite. more trickily and controver-

A few months ago, the con-stitutional court ruled that it sially, in the new democratic was permissible to describe all soldiers "as murderers", sparking Chancellor Helmut Kohi to fume that it was intol-Last month, the Bavarian prosecution authorities threatened to sue Compu-serve, the United States onerable that "our soldiers be equated with criminals". The test case derives from the 1930s when the German line service provider, for facilitating the illegal circulation of child pornogra-

wit, Kurt Tucholsky, coined the aphorism "soldiers are murderers". He was tried and acquitted on charges of slander, but in 1994 a German pacifist was arrested for broadcasting the same senti-

action of a single government. Last week, the Germans struck again. Prosecutors in ment via a car sticker. Mr Hermann may not go all the way to the constitutional court, but he is unabashed by Manubeim forced the online service provider of the national telecommunications company, Deutsche Telekom. legal threats. "If they tear down the wailing wall, we'll build it again. This is a piece to close access to the cyber-space site of a German neoof living democracy here





end of the week, usually in One after the other, nuclear

physicists, seismologists and geologists have been stumped. Police have ruled out arson. A man with a div-ining pendulum has been pac-ing the Rue Roussin and a witch doctor has held court in

the Prise d'Eau bistro. In his elegant 17th century mairie, Jean Burdeyron, the town's mayor, was straining to distinguish the facts from

> wildfire among Moirans's 2,200 inhabitants. . Mr Burdeyron said: "We

 $\pm \infty$

WORLD NEWS 7 Nigerian 'hate' campaign threatens Soyinka's life

A fearful dictatorship has made a series of charges against the exiled writer, writes Chris McGreal in Port Harcourt

OSTERS threatening the life of the exiled Nigerian Nobel liter-ature prize winner. opponents, and claims British intelligence is plotting to break up Nigeria. Gen Aba-cha has even turned on sym-Wole Soyinka, have been plaspathetic voices in the media. tered across Lagos two days attacking them for insuffiafter a government minister implicated him in bomb cient patriotism. The government is keen to

"committed patriots", de-nounce opponents of the ensure that no one thinks the death of Ibrahim Abacha. country's military dictator, General Sani Abacha, including the National Liberation Council of Nigeria (Nalicon) led by Professor Soyinka. "To anarchist Professor Wole Soyinka and his Nalicon cohorts we say: he who sows the wind shall reap the whirl-

wind [and] you may run but you can't hide," the poster warns. hotel blast. The threats come amid rising paranoia within the regime since the recent death of Gen Abacha's son in a pres-idential plane crash, and

bomb explosions in the north-ern cities of Kano and Kaduna. The dictatorship has accused foreign governments of supplying military and fisistance to exiled nancial as on the hotel bomber

whether I approve of actions taken against a permicious and universally vilified regime? For now, I am going to keep my opinion to my-

Military officials are also distributing an article attributed to an unnamed American magazine which claims to prove that foreign intelligence agencies are plotting to destroy Nigeria. Among the conspiracies is an alleged liai-son between MI6 and the his-torian Basil Davidson, who wrote The Black Man's Burden, an analysis of the shortcomings of colonially im-posed borders in Africa.

The article claims British intelligence and Mr Davidson plan to eradicate existing states and return the continent to tribal kingdoms Mr Nas said he could not understand why Prof Soyinka remained in self-imposed exile, saying he was in no dan-ger if he returned home. Wada Nas quoted the example of the prominent lawyer, Gani Fawehinmi. as one where a government opponent was free to campaign for a return to civilian rule.____ The next day, Mr Fawe-hinmi was arrested after trying to address a student rally. He is still detained, suppos-edly for questioning in con-

self," he said.

Wole Soyinka: Refuses to criticise bombings Nigerian state television followed with a flood of alle-gations, including charges that Burkina Faso has offered Prof Soyinka and other exiles a military base for armed

a military base for armed training, and that the South African government supplied political exiles with 2380,000 and a building in Johannes-burg for, their campaign against the Nigerian regime. Prof Soyinka, in an inter-view during a visit to South Africa, denied any connection with the attacks, or receiving foreign financial and military foreign financial and military assistance. But he declined to

> "You want to ask me nection with the bombings



lan Black Diplomatic Editor

SRAEL's negotiations with Syria on the future of the Golan Heights are going well, the Israeli prime minister, Shimon Peres, insisted yesterday, but he signalled a tough line on bargaining over West Bank settlements and Jerusalem

Speaking in London after meeting the Foreign Secre-tary, Malcolm Rifkind, Mr Peres said the latest session of talks with Syria had given him grounds for optimism in contrast to more downbeat assessments from both the United States and other Israeli leaders.

"Neither Syria nor ourhe said, "I do believe sincerely that President Assad [of Syria] has decided to take the road of peace. It is only a matter of time before we shall have peace with Syria and Lebanon as we did with Egypt, Jordan

Discussion of economic co-

and the Palestinians.

to suggestions that he call a general election before the October deadline — risking a confrontation with the oppo-sition Likud over concessions to the Arabs. But he said if he did so, it would be for domes-tic reasons and not because of the peace process.

still riding a wave of public sympathy after the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin last November, would call the elections in mid-May.

President Assad, Mr Peres told the BBC: "I think the country will agree to make peace with Syria once we know we will have real peace. I feel this time the Syrians are

before.' Agreement with Syria, Israel's most implacable eneny, is the missing piece in the Middle East jigsaw. But Mr Peres indicated tough talks ahead when Israel and the Palestings being talks on a Palestinians begin talks on a final peace settlement in May.

much more serious than ever

Israeli newspapers specu-lated yesterday that Mr Peres,

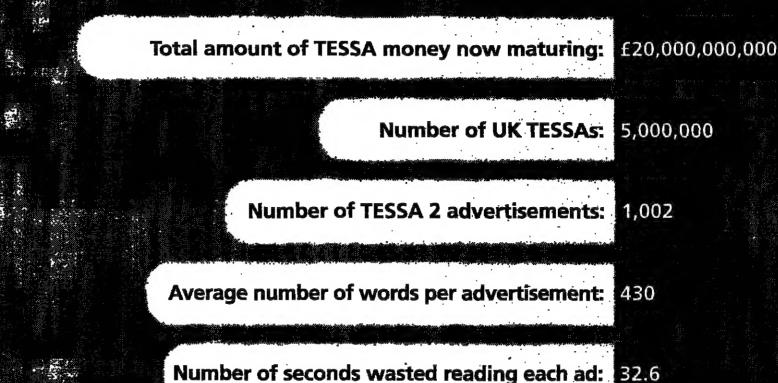
Asked about problems with his electorate over a deal with

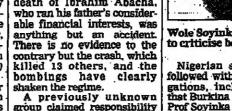


VARIABLE (GROSS P.A.)

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group claimed responsibility for the explosions at a Kaduna hotel and one at Kano airport. The only casualty was the bomber himself in the

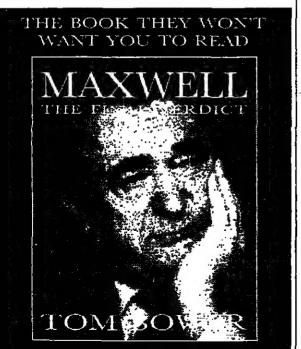
hotel blast. A government investiga-tion has not turned up any suspects, but earlier this week the minister for special duties. Wada Nas, pointed the finger at Prof Soyinka, even though the only "evidence" linking him to the scene is a copy of one of his books found on the botal bomber criticise the bombings.



water issues and security arrangements in an atmosphere of "total informality" had been an innovation in talks near Washington that ended on Wednesday. Mr Peres said. But with all other accounts suggesting a wide gap be-tween Jerusalem and Damas-cus — on sensitive issues such as whether Israel is pre-pared to withdraw fully and pared to withdraw fully and Syria to normalise completely the prime minister seeme to be thinking wishfully and with an eye to voters at home. Warren Christopher, the US secretary of state, is to visit the two capitals again next week, hut Washington is playing down hopes of an im-minent breakthrough.

ians demand as their capital. was "religiously open but po-litically closed", he said. Israel captured East Jerusalem in 1967, then annexed it. On the West Bank, where some 130,000 Jews live in settlements established since 1967, Mr Peres reinforced the tough message of recent weeks that, after the two Oslo agreements on Palestinian self-rule, future territorial concessions could be limited. He said: "I do not see any reason why the settlers and Palestinians cannot co-exist once relations between them will be changed — and I al-ready see the beginning of a change. I don't see any reason why we should take further

Mr Peres failed to respond | steps.

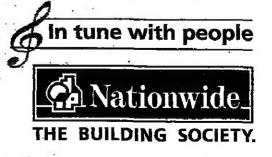


Eight years ago, Robert Maxwell tried to ban his damning and bestselling biography, Maxwell: The Outsider,

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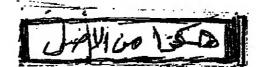
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Who will pay for pay?

Wage rises mustn't lead to bigger classes

in the public sector are to be allowed pay increases averaging four per cent, as recommended by the pay review boards, is good news with a time bomb attached. Doctors, nurses and teachers are all a vitalpart of the social infrastructure without which a wealth-creating economy can't function properly. They deserve to share in increased national prosperity as much as anyone else. If the proposals go through there will be relief among public sector professions that although the increases are hardly generous they are at least above the level of inflation (currently running at 3.0 per cent). Too often in the past the greatly diminished numbers still working for the state have been the lossleaders of the Government's counter-

inflationary policy. Last week the CBI suggested that the time was ripe for a return to the longterm trend of increases in real wages following the recent pause. The public sector not only has a right to share in any increased share of national income going to wager earners, but it is in the long-term national interest that this should be so otherwise the quality of people wanting to be teachers or doctors or nurses will decline. The catch, as so often, is that the Government has willed the end without providing the means. Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, has made it clear that he will not provide any additional funds to finance the increases. They must be either phased or financed entirely by productivity — which in the public sector is shorthand for yet more redundancies. Elsewhere, this is not uncommon. Most of the pay increases in manufacturing have been financed by higher produc-tivity. That's the mechanism whereby industry continues to improve its interintensive: they simply don't have the was going to be a clean campaign.

THE NEWS that professional workers | same scope for ever-increasing productivity improvements. Schools have suffered far too much already from having to sack staff, postpone capital refurbishment and increase class sizes (something the market-sensitive private schools never do) to finance underfunded wage increases parsimonious chancellors won't pay for.

Teachers will get around 3.8 per cent as their share of the new settlement. Since on the Government's own mea-sure of living standards (the Tax and Prices index) a typical employee needs an increase of 3.6 per cent simply to offset the effects of inflation and higher taxes, the new deal is hardly generous: yet the price of implementing it will be a fresh squeeze on (non-pay) spending which cannot be squared with the Government's pledge to improve educa-tional standards. Of course, there may be a deeper layer of cynicism here which may work to the advantage of the public sector. Although the Government has declared itself unhappy about conceding what the pay review boards are recommending, this is not the whole truth. Sometime during the next 14 months there will be a general election which the Conservatives are highly unlikely to win unless they can revive the "feelgood factor" in a big way. No one knows a sure-fire recipe for the feelgood factor except that every politician knows that a perceived improvement in living standards is an essential part. It is almost an axiom of political life that public spending rises as a general election approaches (even if the extent of the rise isn't apparent until reliable figures are published much much later on). In these circumstances the Government may be disposed to turn a blind eye to pay increases which aren't fully funded while national competitiveness. But hospitals trying to pin the blame on "profligate" and schools are intrinsically labour- local authorities. No one ever said it

Salvoes across the water

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Taiwan should treat Chinese threats with deft caution

THE CHINESE ARMY'S special show of military callisthenics this week, across the border from Hong Kong, was de increase for the problem to be solved signed to sooth public opinion. Lunging | finally once and for all. It was not just with bayonets and employing flame, rhetoric which led Deng Xiaoping, throwers may seem an odd way to while announcing his new policy of reassure Hong Kongers that life will be speeded-up economic reform in 1992, to entirely peaceful after June 30, 1997. say that the "reunification of the motherland" still remains the top priority. Patriotic assertion has become to an increasing extent a substitute for defunct socialism. And the man or woman on the Number One bus passing through Tiananmen Square is likely to feel as passionately as the top leadership about the missing bits of China. The return of Hong Kong (and soon its commitment to nuclear testing. afterwards Macao) to Beijing moves Taiwan inexorably up the agenda. In Can the heightened tension in the one sense this should be good news for Hong Kong: there is even less good reason for Beijing to throw its weight around unnecessarily and by doing so to make the Taiwanese even more nervous. Some reassurance may be found in the growing economic role of the People's Liberation Army. Directly or through family members, its officer corps is now deeply engaged in entrepreneurial activities. But "in the last - as Mr Li put it. Equally since 1950 analysis" this factor is not decisive. The PLA is a formidable force with more offensive muscle than in previous decades: the possibility of miscalculation cannot be ruled out. Taiwan should behave with practical caution. No one is asking the Chinese to renounce anything but it would be in their best pendent Taiwan, whatever its notional interests to tone down the pyrotechnics.



Letters to the Editor

complained.

Bel lettres

To paraphrase Bel Moo-ney's royalty-lapping letter (Letters, February 1) about the Godlike Catherine Bennett's good-humoured sport with the Prince of Wales: what the hell is wrong with Mooney and her ilk? The Prince of Wales proposes building Toytown villages, kills beautiful animals for fun, sends his sons to public schools, publicly humiliates his wife, betrays one of his closest friends over a period of 20 years — and sits at the very top of a savage and the at the listine edifice of privilege that is a very offence to the people of this country in itself. It is ironic that she sup-ports the very casual brutal-ity and cynical unfairness she

problem, it was not the way in which the schools were or-ganised and it is quite wrong deplores in the rest of our society. Is Bel Mooney ambfor Wright to imply that it was. Nor did the enquiry to which he refers suggest that a idextrous, may one ask? Or does she stop tugging her forelock for five minutes when firing off ill-tempered missives against our own Queen Catherine? Julie Burchill

The Sussex Arts Club, Brighton, East Susser

WOULD this Bel Mooney be in any way related to Jonathan Dimbleby, some-time public confessor to our are virtually identical to among other things, that NE2 IEY.

Fisticuffs in the classroom ONY WRIGHT'S open letter to me (Good gram-

mar, February 1) was "a reply" to an article which agree. Perhaps the "alliance", which Wright suggests in his last paragraph, could be built around his support for my began with a complaint about the ignorance on which many of the arguments against non-selective secondary education are based. Dr Wright provides another example of the intel-lectual inadequacy of which I proposal that the Labour Party commits itself to an increase in education spending. Were he to endorse that view he would of course be dailying He rightly draws attention to the problems of Birming-ham education in the 1980s and early 1990s. Some of us would insist that the difficulthe Modernisers' Orthodoxy - which includes a freeze on public expenditure as well as the denigration of compre-hensive education. ties were exacerbated by from the system rather than argue for its improvement. But whatever the cause of the

House of Commons, London SWIA 0AA ONG ago, I was a class-mate of Tony Wright at an average Midlands grammar school. He was then radical enough to reject an early entry to power and privilege by turning down an Oxford scholarship and going to LSE instead (it was 1957). His at

return to selective education would improve the city's schools. Professor Ted Wragg scholarship and going of isse instead (it was 1967). His at-tempt at a defence of gram-mar schools and selection suggests his radicalism has been blunted. - who wrote the report on which the spectacular recent improvements in Birming ham education have been built — holds views on com-Nick Burden

are virtually identical to mine. The Wragg Report said, Newcastle upon Tyne

more money (both capital and revenue) should be spent on Birmingham schools — a view with which I entirely agree. Bender the licitican arrive to stand on edu-cation. Dufit the last couple of Blair as how, decades later, the licitican arrive to stand on edu-cation. Dufit the last couple of Blair as how, decades later, the licitican arrive to stand on edu-cation. Dufit the last couple of the licitican arrive to stand on edu-cation. Dufit the last couple of the licitican arrive to stand on edu-cation. Dufit the last couple of the licitican arrive to stand on edu-cation. Dufit the last couple of the licitican arrive to stand on edu-cation. Dufit the last couple of the licitican arrive to stand on edu-cation. Dufit the last couple of the licitican arrive to stand on edu-tion arrive to stand on edu-tion arrive to stand on edu-tication arrive to stand on edu-stand arrive to stand on edu-stand arrive to stand on edu-tication arrive to stand on edu-stand arrive to stand on edu-tication arrive to stand on edu-tication arrive to stand on edu-tion arrive to stand on edu-tication arrive to stand on edu-stand arrive to stand on edu-stand arrive to stand on edu-tication arrive to stand on edu-stand arrive to stand on edu-tication arrive to stand on edu-stand arrive to stand on edu-stand arrive to stand on edu-tication arrive to stand on edu-stand arrive to stand paragraphs, that is, when he the latter decides political paragraphs, mar is, when he hatter decides pointed ingenerative" in dealing with the independent sector. If I understand his argu-ment, independent schools, like the surviving grammar schools, should be "invited" It seems indeed a shame issues and policies. Who to become centres of excelthat so much "dirt" is being dug ... talking of which, at Prime Minister's Question lence within a comprehensive system to serve children who Time, does not the behaviour of the bulk of expensively and privately educated Tory MPs cast shame on the values in-culcated from that "education"? can benefit "from what they might have to offer". So why does Wright oppose the as-sisted-places scheme, which does precisely that for more than \$0,000 children?

If a Labour government abolishes the scheme, as the party intends, a vital link be-tween state and independent schools will have been cut. The independent schools will till he there end still catting Peter Porteous. Sunnybank, School Lane, Nutbourne, West Sussex PO18 8RZ. OW comforting to know that Paul McCartney still be there and still getting large numbers into Oxbridge. But they will only be open to (Message from Macca: All you need is fame, January 31) is going to try his hand at teach-ing, without any formal trainparents who can afford them. That sounds more divisive to ing or qualifications. I expect Linda is already busy prepar-ing a recipe for environmen-tally friendly chalk. me, not less. Richard Davison. Deputy Director, Independent Schools Information Service, 56 Buckingham Gata, London SW1E 6AG.

economy they may prove

The past few years have

seen the spontaneous growth

L Helm. Newnham College, Cambridge CB3 9DF.

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Rt Hon Roy Hattersley MP.

But for Beijing to refrain from deploying troops in Hong Kong — a territory under colonial rule for a century and a half — would have been an amazing act of self-denial. China in its present mood is certainly not going to miss the chance to invest the handover with all the patriotic symbolism which it will bear - a mood illustrated this week by

Taiwan Straits also be seen as merely a symbolic reiteration of Chinese sovereignty, or is the Beijing leadership being nudged by an assertive army into a more worrying posture? The speech by Premier Li Peng, repeating the threat that an overt move towards Taiwanese independence could prompt a military attack, said nothing new. Since 1950 China has refused to renounce the right to use force "in the last analysis" China has never shown any serious intention of wishing to invade. But the situation has not stood still. In Taiwan the ruling Kuomintang has only managed to retain power by giving ground to the independence lobby while as time goes on the de facto reality of an inde-

The vicious circle of peace talks

Inertia in the National Forum reflects deep problems outside

4

peace process itself, the National proved a stumbling block in the forum, Forum for Peace and Reconciliation is something of a sideshow. Yet the Forum, a body sponsored by the Irish governmment, was part of the original Downing Street Declaration of December 1993. Though boycotted by most unionist parties, it provided an early opportunity for Sinn Fein to become involved in political discussions with other parties. The forum has been meeting quietly in Dublin most weeks for the past year and a half. Now, on the verge of producing its report, it has suddenly run into trouble because Sinn Fein is reluctant to sign.

In the wider scheme of things the forum's problems may count for little. bigger agenda, since they centre on Sinn Fein's unwillingness to put its all-party talks. Sinn Fein's caution may name to any document which treats be tactically understandable, but it unionist consent as a necessary part of bodes badly for the future.

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COMPARED with the Northern Ireland | any agreed settlement. If that issue has it will clearly be one in any full allparty talks on Northern Ireland.

Some will say that it is unreasonable for Sinn Fein to be expected to commit itself on this vital question at this stage. If Sinn Fein is to accept such a thing, they will argue, it can only be as part of a comprehensive settlement. That argument should be treated with respect. Nevertheless, Sinn Fein's baulking over consent is another disturbing reminder that - unlike all other Irish nationalist participants - it has never committed itself to the principle that Northern Ireland must consent to any agreed overall outcome to the peace process. Its reluctance is central to the context Yet its difficulties are indicative for the in which unionists feel compelled to seek elections as a preliminary to any

1

I think we should be told. Jack Critchlow. 73 Sherwell Hill, Torquay TQ2 6LX

AT FIRST I thought I had my Bels confused. I as-sumed that Bel Mooney's let-ter was, in fact, one of Bel ittleiche's monderful Littlejohn's wonderful pastiches. Gabriel Milland. 59b Arlingford Road, Brixton, London SW2 2ST.

Right to reply

YOU reported (January 27) the suggestion that Green peace wants "to give up action in favour of talking". In May 1994 you reported the allegation that Greenpeace had "gone soft" and you reported similar suggestions in April 1995. This regular annual, the Greenpeace goes soft story in the Guardian, has occurred unusually early this year. It is, of course, no more accurate than it was in 1994 or 1995. Since your April 1995 story, Greenpeace has carried out direct actions to stop the dumping of the Brent Spar. to highlight (and eventually help reduce by two) French nuclear tests in the Pacific, had 200 people invade BNFL's Sellafield plant, blocked the House of Lords, London SW1A 0AA discharge pipe from Britain's bomb factory at Aldermaston T SEEMS to be accepted in for 10 days, and protested in Tiananmen Square against the UK that MPs are entitled to employ wives. Chinese nuclear testing. We spouses or other family mem-

believe that our actions speak louder than your words. Peter Melchett. Executive Director, Greenpeace UK. Canonbury Villas, London NI 2PN.

AFTER spending 22 hours Aover two, days at ACAS this week in talks to ensure that collective bargaining continues at ITN. I was con cerned to read (ITN strike called off, February 1) that the NUJ and BECTU had ed an agreement to end collective bargaining. We have done nothing of the sort. What we have agreed is to re-affirm our commitment to collective bargaining. The Heads of Agreement has many references to collective bargaining whilst recognising the unions can represent their members.

Our only regret is that it took the threat of a strike to reach commonsense this agreement. John Fray. NUJ Broadcasting Organiser, 314-320 Gray's Inn Road,

London WCIX 8DP.

DARLING - 1'D LIKE TO AS YOU TO BE MY SECRETA

Don't swallow the House whine

ERENCE Higgins (Unloved) probably better qualified than MPs feel the pinch, Februmost of these family J H McCrindell.

ary 1) is not correct when he says that MPs' pay has been static for 30 years. When I was elected in 1962, the salary 159 Hartington Road, London SW8 2EY. was £1,750 and I paid my secretary £750. The net pay of £1,000 was then further eroded by other office costs, which were not covered by any allowances. Nor did the taxpayer contribute to our pensions or redundancy payments. There were none of these benefits. Ignoring all other factors, £1,000 in 1962 was worth about the same as £10,000 in 1995, less than one third of a presentday Member's salary. Lord Avebury.

of inflation for several years. Suggestions that we be allowed to catch up have been dismissed out of hand, and improvements in productivity have been discounted or ignored.

I see no additional activity in Parliament, no increase in number of bills passed, no im-provement in effectiveness of

bers as secretaries and research assistants. I believe this is the worst form of nepotism, particularly when there are unemployed graduates 1b Chatham Road Manchester M16 0DR.

This is the decree absolute

YOUR article referring to remain illegal. Your corre-recent changes in the law spondent also fails to place in regulating demarcation of In-dian lands in Brazil (Rape by decree, January 31) gives a wholly unbalanced account of the issue. The new decree regulating demarcation allows those potentially affected to state their case to the authorigoverna ties - a basic constitutional right that was lacking in previous legislation.

time limit and clear require- dian lands in the State of ments as to the legal basis for Para, the demarcation of the claims. It is a blatant mis which is open to challenge representation to suggest that under the new decree. the decree "potentially puts Rubens Antonio Barbosa. 344 out of 554 Indian reserves Brazilian Ambassador. up for grabs". Illegal occupa-tion of Indian lands will London WIY 4AT.

AS A senior academic scientional reputation, it took me about 25 years to reach the salary level of an MP. Most of the occupations whose pay is effectively, governed by and ministers, including mine, have suffered "rises" less than the prevailing rates

A Country Diary legislation. What justification can be made for them as a

special case? (Dr) R V Parish.

- -----

dwellers. Summer walkers were treated to the ducking proper context her assertion that "successive governments have denied the Indian affairs and diving of a pair of pere-grine falcons. It's 12 miles from end to end of the sweep agency, Funai, the funding needed" by omitting that budgetary restrictions have afof fells, but in December the sensible option is a steep, scrambling climb from Belfected all sectors of And what she maliciously fast Castle to the 1,600ft sumdescribes as a letter from the Minister of Justice to a state mit. It was here, at the neolithic ring known as McArt's Fort, that the United Irish-It sets out the conditions under which this right can be exercised, which include a tion is simply a list of the Inmen swore to overthrow the power of England in Ireland the days when Ian Paisley

was no more than a twinkle in his great, great, great grandfather's kneecap. It's little wonder that the lofty ambitions. You can see

...

Barter system is good value

THE principal reason why so many politicians and people object to the proposed single European currency is and regional level, if, as we and regional level, if, as we believe, they can prove useful that they fear the monopolistic power which will accrue to in mobilising unemployed or those who control it. The under-employed resources to rebuild impoverished British Government originally proposed a European currency which would be ad-ditional to the existing communities. We call upon the political parties, business leaders and national currencies. The idea citizens of this country to con-

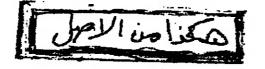
was dismissed for no good sider carefully the advantages of liberalising money by. reason. We support increased political and economic co-opallowing the use of co-existing eration between the EU memcurrencies at different levels. ber states and we believe that rather than granting a moa common European cur-rency can assist this process, providing that other curren-cies are allowed to circulate freely at whatever level of the nopolistic right to control a single European or national currency. George McRobie. Sara Parkin.

James Robertson. Elizabeth Sidney. James Skinner The New Economics Foundation, 112-116 Whitschapel Road, London El 1JE.

of over 350 Local Exchange Trading Systems (LETS) in this country. These informal local currencies enable people in small communities to ex-Please include a tuli postal change their goods and ser-vices more efficiently than address, even on e-mailed letters, and a telephone number. they can do by using the national currency, which ones are more likely to appear. they find hard to come by, pri- We regret we cannot marily because of widespread acknowledge those not used.

************************************ CAVE HILL, CO ANTRIM: "The wages of sin are death." proclaims the graffito on the darkened wall of the epony-at Newtownards. Southat Newtownards. South-wards, beyond the aerial mous cave, 1,200 feet above Belfast Lough, adding an ap-propriately Presbyterian masts of the army's base on neighbouring Black Mountouch to the gathering wintry gloom. Mid-week, the hills tain, the Mournes sweep into the Irish Sea, the natural land barrier which separates which flank Belfast are friends only to men with Ulster from the rest of the island. There's Slevin, of St whippets, but come the week-Patrick's fame, to the north and westwards lies the enigend they are the lungs of citymatic Lough Neagh, the largest freshwater lake in the British Isles. If Jimmy Cag-ney had been a fell-walker he would surely have cried out "Top of the world, Ma!" on Cave Hill. William McComb in his 1861 Guide said Cave Hill "presents a rugged front of beetling basalt cliffs, the sky line of which as seen from the best point of view on a clear evening, soon after forever; Presbyterians all, in sunset, bears no remote resemblance to a Titanian profile of Napoleon the Great." Ever since, Belfast neonle have called the mountain which leers down at

view inspired them to such | them Napoleon's Nose. D W SHARROCK



Diary

Matthew Norman

Y old friend Harry Greenway, cerebral Tory MP for Ealing North, has made another lunge into the public consciousness. Along with two other Tories (Anthony Steen and Iain Mills) who live in Dean's Yard - a charmingly secluded square adjoining Westmin-ster Abbey — Harry has stopped a plan to install a barrier at an accident-plagued road junction. Although many wanted it (the police, London Transport, ward councillors, Westmin ster School and a pedestrians' group among them), Harry and his chums have objected: the barrier, they say, would prevent a right turn from Dean's Yard, thus adding seconds to the car journey to Parliament they find so preferable to the three-minute walk. This is only the latest in a sequence of career triumphs for Harry: in 1980 he demanded a legal definition of "the horse", while in 1988 he tabled a motion congratulating Mrs Thatcher on becoming a grandmother.

DUCATION watchdog Ofsted has been count ing replies to a questionnaire it sent to 25,000 chools. The postbag bulged. Out of a potential 500,000 replies to the question "What are the similarities between social and moral development?", the total number of answers received was six.

WORK drought forces Taki-George to New York (or "the Big Beagle", in his baffling Anglo-Nicosian argot). He is working as under-cocktail waiter for a Mr Butterball, whose generous wages he is putting towards yet another crack at the Berlitz English language course. Although this endeavour does him credit, I must rebuke him for referring to the Duchess of York as "a chalet girl" — a fitting snipe, perhaps, from a well-regarded columnist, but a tiresome impertinence from a Cypriot domestic with a drug-smuggling con-viction. This is hardly my first warning: you are serv-ing drinks, Taki-George, in the last-chance saloon.

LSEWHERE in the Spectator, mean-while, is a letter attacking Lord Howe for the spineless failure to check outrageous misbehaviour (of MPs hiding behind par-liamentary privilege). It is from a Mr Joe Haines of

be the same Joe Haines who

spinelessly failed to check the outrageous misbehaviour of his master Robert

Maxwell (a man fabled for

libel)? The same Joe Haines

hiding behind the laws of

Clocking on to the chimes of Big Ben

Commentary Peter Preston

Nolan has cut some of the channels that supply it. No all-purpose consultancy fees. ******************** No paid advocacy in the House. Endless scrutiny and No. Wrong. Hopeless. Keep Lord Nolan out of it. What MPs get paid is nothing to do with him and has no relation-ship to the vital agenda he and his team have yet to tackle. Drag him into this tackle. Drag him into this declarations of interest. The Lord has blinking well taken away. Now the Lord can give something back.

The suggestion makes Nolan a revolving door of an inquiry, bound to find status quo answers (in bundles of fivers) as well as over arching week's farrage of impecu-nious backbench frustration solutions. It also makes ex-plicit the off-repeated argu-ment that if Members of Par-liament had a much better and you can wave goodbye to the rest of the Nolan reform process; which would be a nalign shame. salary they wouldn't need to get involved in all manner of The notion of involving his Lordship — with 300 names on an order paper — has two strands of flailing humanity to it, but no logic. Hundreds of MPs feel vulnerable and

unloved: they also feel short of cash. Because they are un-loved they need to hide be-hind some pillar of rectitude on the enhanced mazuma front Lord Pillar of Rectitude (however much they mange about him in private) has

dodgy things on the side - a straight, umbilical connec-tion between shortage of disshort-cuts. means will abraptly become uninterested when they've achieved a certain condition

trading bigger pay for better conduct. A false, fatally de-structive equation. MPs who feel hard done by have to start somewhere entirely different somewhere between their nose and their posable income and greedy navel. They, at least in theory, are the ultimate mov-Auss, the crucial failacy. It supposes that people who are inherently interested in mak-ing cash by all available means will abruntly become Alas, the crucial fallacy, It ers and shakers, the supreme authority, the legislators. They may, with infinite reluc-tance, have just adjusted self-

and done to them. He's there:

But the second strand is the

stronger, and seedier, one. It

wraps a passed parcel of blame. MPs feel suddenly, an-

grily short of money because

he's convenient.

when the shop's been burgled. But he has nothing to do with laying out the shop's front window in the first place. If Westminster wants to alter its hours, or its membership, or its pay, it need only table a much clatter about the sanctity of review bodies. They're pronouncing on doctors and motion and pass a vote. Yet here courage fails. MPs will moan and bitch, scrimp nurses and teachers any mo and save: but they will not ment now. Will the Treasury use the power they have for fear their coters won't underand then the Government and then voting backbenchers automatically rubber stamp public respect because of | of comfort - a million, two stand. They need (great their verdict? They never what he's said about them million. That's as logical as hymns of British public life) claiming that people who colan independent outsider, have. They never will

agreed criteria for compari-Backbenchers owe them son, an automatic formula selves a little honesty. Let something over there that governments pay ministers keeps rampant electors off their back. Not me, guv. If we're talking hypocrisy (and it seems to be the rasp-berry ripple of the month) what they wish. (If universi ties now pay professors what they're worth, not some mind less grade entitlement, a Major or Blair regime can surely do likewise.) Let expenses be actual expenses -itemised realities rather than

MPs who preferred the old ways and the old bodging could be non-executive directors

you could fill a barrel with i right here. There was (and in theory still is) such an inde-pendent, automatic formula, duly agreed by Parliament, which tied Members' salaries to a particular Civil Service grade. But the formula, in practice, has gone to the dogs because Civil Service grades

have been swamped by tar-gets and incentives, leaving basic pay as shrunken resi-duum. Who, pray, agreed to that? MPs agreed. They shot almost anything — as long as the great Lord Nolan is parked on the far side of Par-liament Square, getting on in peace and clarity

COMMENT AND ANALYSIS 9 sider. Gordon Downey as themselves in the foot in the Commissioner for Standards pursuit of a policy quite as — somebody to investigate clear and quite as obvious as. Let me spel out say, the decoupling of pen why eggheads sions from rises in national earning power which has left OAPs relatively poorer and poorer by the year And let's, in the meantime, not have too crack me up



Bel Littlejohn

HANKS, Henry Thanks a bloody lot. Just when we were really getting mmutes, with Claudus just a heap of ashes on the stage-floor after the first ray hit vague puddles in a slush fund. Let hours worked, congoing, you've gone and put the cause of media studies back by roughly 1,000 years, give or take the old century. stituency surgeries, commit-tees attended, divisions voted him. terday's piece to regurgitat-ing the wholly irrelevant in — and all that stuff — be turned into a detailed job deviews of Profs Hoggart. Let me explain. For the past scription, as open to inquiry Steiner and Bloom, who seem to think that just because a book's judged "woll-written" and "classic" by an elite of two years, I've been proud to call myself Visiting Professer as the clock-in card at a factory gate. MPs who preferred the old ways and the old bodging could be non-executive direc-tors, paid £20.000 or so and of Culture and Civilisation at the University of Dorking. academics then there must be something to it. By the way, And for these past six years I've slogged my guts out with at least two full-length lecdid you happen to see how in yesterday's photograph Steiner was holding his unto farm or address the Old Bailey as they wished. A choice declared to voters at election time. And the rest. tures a term in order to enthuze and — yes, let's go for it, it's not a dirty word — educate a helluva lot of students the full-timers fully paid. in the swings and round-abouts of contempory culture. would put in the hours, toil over the grit of European legislation, earn every penny. I'd buy that, Indeed, I'd buy In that time, I've disquisi tioned them on such divers subjects as "Like a virgin Madonna and The Semiology of Semiology", "Interpretating Vivienne Westwood" and "From Rin-Tin-Tin via Tintin and Ten-Pin to Tampax, Tin-Tacks and Tarantino: Studies in Cultural Relativism", as well as making a major contribution to the two-year arthistory course at the neighbouring University of Abinger Hammer on "The Complete Works on Video of

Depeche Mode 1983-88". And now Henry Porter goes and tries to ruin it for us all with his bitterly reactionry article in yesterday's G2 in

which he seemed hell-bent on turning back the clock and placing media studies on a level below what he chooses to call "English Literature". In the very same week, the Basic Skills Agency has de-creed that two-thirds of adults cannot spell everyday words like accomodation. As if it matters. I'm not saying that I'm not a big fan of Eng Lit, because I am, and

phering C

brella upside down, so il would catch the rain? Get a life. Professer! Okay, so perhaps Dorking are swinging too much towards the contempory, but hasn't anyone ever told Professer Steiner that history is past its sell-by date? And 1 wonder if Professer Steiner's fuddy-duddy courses are as well-subscribed as our media-studies course at Dorking? Eh. Prof. On the University Admitions Board we now reckon to see 200 applicants for every 5 we accept. Most of the 200 are the brightest of their generation, all desperately ambitious

Porter devoted a lot of yes-

with huge ideas, in fact I'd be surprised if we didn't see the best of them making it big in a top breakfast television company, or experimenting with computer graphics in the latest video by Blur.

Porter bemones the fact that our culture is now primarily vishal not litery. He asks who these days can recite the Lord's Prayer, quote from Dickens, and iden tify flora and fauna. But let me put it this way. Can Pro-

ser George Steiner give me the full name — with birth sign — of the bass guitarist in I've got an A level to prove it. Oasis? No? Then can he name In fact. I encourage my first-year students to read and the character on Brookside who was convicted of murder in 1995, together with the name of the actor who plays him? And finally for all his read and read and read, because a working knowledge of, say, the great French novelist Flaubert will give them a flora and fauna can this selfsucceeded in doing this. But it | whole new language for decistyled King of Culture tell us exactly which character in oronation Str

voir Dogs speaks the beauti-fully balanced line, "you fuck-

ing fuck-fuck, take this you

fucking fuck" - and what

happens immediately after-wards? Ninety-eight per cent

of our 1995 intake answered

each of these questions cor-rectly. How would Professer

Steiner fare, then? Frankly,

until he's taken his head out of his books and managed to

do a helluva lot more home-

work on life in the real world.

I can't see the Prof gaining a

place on any reputable media-

studies course, so their,

Private lives of public figures, from the royals to Harriet Harman, face unprecedented scrutiny. But, Mary Midgley warns, an insistence on unrealistic values is hypocritical

regulation to let in an out-

lect stamps as an obsessive hobby will stop collecting

once they've filled their

album. Human beings don't think like this. If they revere

money and want money, turn

ing £34,000 a year of pay into £60,000 won't solve anything

- merely alter the bench-marks for the next round. And if they wish to argue the

other case (need, not greed) then I've a sackful of Conser-

vative speeches culled over ten years vehemently denying

any link between poverty and crime as some kind of libel on

the honestly impoverished. Lord Nolan's activities, in

short, have nothing to offer to the motors of this campaign. Once his committee sat and

lecided that £50,000 or £70,000

was about right it would be

To do the decent thing

YPOCRISY is a funny thing. On the whole it is supposed to count as a vice. We expeople's acts to be as good as their words. But if their words are really no bet ter than their acts - their ideals no different from their lives — this does not actually improve things. People who avoid hypocrisy by being shamelessly vicious are cyn-ics, possibly psychopaths, and this is not really what we want either. That is why some degree of hypocrisy is thought to be the necessary virtue. The normal degree of tan-sion between principles and practice, between ideals and reality, is the elastic that pulls us forward. Certainly that elastic can be overstrained. Over-grand insin-care talk of ideals that are too remote, or are irrelevant to our present aspirations, does not pull us. If it is insincere it can bring idealism itself into disrepute. It is what makes hypocrisy vicious. But on the other side, too slack a tension, too mean a choice of ideals, is even more disastrous. If we don't even start trying to act as if we were good, we shall probably not start to become This complicated situation makes a lot of difficulty about our attitudes to the private lives of public figures. Samuel Pepys, when he first worked as Secretary to the Navy Board, was vastly tickled by the solemn way in which the Board's members kept talking about the importance of serv ing the King's needs and the King's purposes, while they all knew that Charles II himself was otherwise engaged Besides, Pepys once saw Charles getting wet and "me-thought it lessened my esteem of a king that he should not be able to command the rain". As time went on, however, Pepys came to see things rather differently. First, he found that Charles was actually much more willing to spend time and trouble on the Navy than many of those who had talked so impressively about him. But he also under-stood that this talk of the King's service was in fact nei-ther false nor idle, that it had a real and important func-tion. He also stopped expecting the King to control the rain. Gradually, Pepys began to sort out the convention from the raw data, the form from the substance, the office from the man and the aspiration from the reality. He came to see that these things are different, but that life absolutely requires all of them. It is surprisingly hard, how-ever, to keep these different aspects in sight together. We constantly flock over one way or the other. Biographers, after a long epoch of ideal-ised, public-centred portraits, have turned (since Lytton



ordinary difficulty of relating public to private life. Pepys's naive surprise about the rain is not exceptional. As Canute found, it is quite often necessary to explain that kings and queens do not have supernat-ural powers. Yet in their way these people do still represent something above ordinary life. As Shakespeare's history plays make clear, these figures are there to stop things falling apart, to prevent anarchy, to embody ideals of shared aspiration in a way

that makes national unity

possible. And they have often

an only be done if they are to

od value

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who, according to Tom Bow-er's splendid new book, denounced Maxwell's business methods hours before he bought the Mirror, and from that moment forth "acted as a swooning poodle"? Or is it someone else with the same name?

EWS arrives to cement Gordon Brown's carefully cultivated reputation for fiscal prudence. Shadow Cabinet colleagues put it about that Gordon (the only politician to have a Strangers record named after him) wasted a fortune last year on press conferences that never took place. Rooms at the Institute of Civil Engineering were can-celled so late that the full fee was payable. The total mentioned is £16,000.

less careful with cash, and the £150,000 it has spent on Network Wales - a campaign to raise the min-has not been wasted. What better advert, after all, than to show itself as a source of bang-up-to-the-minute in-formation? Those visiting the department's web site will learn, for example, that the Secretary of State is John Redwood.

ROM Ruby Wax's brilliant BBC1 interview with Imelda Marcos last weekend, one fact continues to haunt me. Madame Marcos was shown becoming the congresswoman for her home region of Layte, and a friend mentioned that her big campaign theme was to put everyone on the Internet This sounds oddly familiar, Has anybody had a peep into Mr Tony Blair's shoe closet lately?

ARTHUR SCARGEL SAYS WE SHOULD HAVE SURVED IN THE SUMMER. ORK BORIS BORUS

. . . .

ILLUSTRATION: GEOFF GRANDFIELD

Strachey) to writing histories so private-centred, sometimes figures, a long epoch of conso snide, that they often make ventional concentration on official roles has been folthe reader wonder why their subject was ever a matter of public concern at all Darwin, lowed by one of insatiable enquiry into private oddities. for example, has been the sub-ject of acres of newsprint in recent years. But an amazing The advantage of this — if one wanted to make a case for it --- comes of course in terms of mount of this literature honesty. Idealisation was delves repetitively into his life while avoiding the real sometimes hypocritical. It concealed vices which could problems - which he himself problems — which he himself be relevant to people's public whatever look worthless. Particularly to royalty, where saw clearly — of understand-function. But the price paid ing his message and its effects for the opposite extreme is on unrealistic values sets up a symbolic role compounds the be relevant to people's public whatever look worthless, function. But the price paid A hypocritical insistence

on our culture. Similarly in | fearfully heavy. Beyond car-| standard by which anyone our attitudes to living public | tain limits, concentrating on | can be discredited. The effect a person's private persona is is to present a picture of pubbound to distract us from their public work. This is true lic figures so degraded that it quite obscures our undereven when the curiosity is standing of their work. It also respectful, as it has been over discredits their whole profes Darwin. But when the curios-ity is itself insolent and malisions, deterring uncommitted people from joining these ways of life, or indeed from cious, things are much worse. Squalid questions cannot fail getting into the business of to produce squalid answers in public service at all. All this, of course, applies a way that can make any life

more decently organised. In both cases, the reference to private life is a sheer distraction. We had better resist all such efforts to take our minds off the real issues.

> Dr Mary Midgley is a former senior lecturer in philosophy at Newcastle University, and author of Can't We Make Moral Judgments? (Duckworth)

some extent believed in. fact, one of the liveliest dis- Tarantino's seminal Reser Their public persona must be cussions we've engaged in taken seriously. This kind of this term has been "Bet belief does not require a lie. It | Lynch and Madame Bovary". does not ask us to credit them In short, clasic literature conwith supernatural powers or tinues to be a very useful tool virtues. But it does ask us to - amidst many others - for helping us in our principal task of sheding light on the concentrate on their public role, not to keep getting distexts - video, movie, CD, intracted by the private one. ternet, virtual reality, etc -

that are relevant to today. "Shakespeare versus T present, republican campaigners evidently think that Schwarzenegger" is the title of a lecture I am preparing for next term. I argue that Ham-let, for all his complexity. this kind of belief in royalty is no longer possible. They conclude simply that the monarchy must go. But simply does not have the farthis strikes me as a naive and irrelevant solution. Our cenreaching technological Henry Porter. tral trouble is not monarchy but a corrupt tabloid press which concentrates attention. not just on the private lives of prominent people but always on the most squalid questions available about them. This phenomenon is not just inev-itable. It does not happen in other monarchies such as Holland and the Scandinavian countries. And if we had a president instead of a mon-arch, this press could still do exactly the same thing, as it is now doing in the US.

The political motive behind this particular campaign has of course partly been the simple wish to sell papers and to distract attention from the failures of a rightwing Government which the press supported. But there is a more direct specific motive too. It is not just that Rupert Murdoch is a republican. He, and those like him, are also much alarmed by the danger pre-sented to that kind of rightwing Government by the heir to the throne, who has shown signs of being much more active and more enlightened politically than most of his predecessors. He takes social and environmental questions seriously. This is not a pros-pect that they fancy. (They would not fancy a president or prime minister who did this either.)

Their response is to distract attention from his policies by whipping up a hypocritical frenzy of indignation against selected details of his private life. The Government, following this lead now denounces as hypocritical the private conduct of Labour politicians who, since they live in a brutally unequal world, have to make choices they would not make in a world

INSPIRING EADER? Good feaders must weigh up all the facts communicate their clearly and precisely

COULD

MORE

YOU BE A

They have to lead by example, never asking people to do things they wouldn't do themselves. They must command both

If you think that you have these qualities then don't write to the editor, write to us



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10 OBITUARIES

The Guardian Friday February 2 1996

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مصفة عبد -

1992 -1923 -



ULIAN HILL, the | tigation carried out under the | 6,6 was introduced to the pubresearch chemist whose work led to the accidental disstitutes for silk. covery of nylon, has

died at the age of 91. Despite revolutionising everyday life in warfare and courtship, his find brought him neither fame nor fortune. In 1930 he produced a non-

Julian Hill

cellulose polyester that pulled naturally into fibres at room temperature during tests on synthetic polymers at the Du Pont experimental station in Wilmington, Delaware.

This discovery, which within a few years trans-formed the man-made fibre industry by leading to nylon-6, is often assigned to serendipity. It was in fact part of a systematic bench-based inves-

station's organic research di-rector. Wallace Carothers, lic at the 1939 World's Fair). However, back in 1931 for his fundamental work on new who was seeking stronger subpolymers and for the initial

discovery of the nylons, Car-In a sense Hill served as the intuitive hands carrying out Carothers' ideas and at first others was elected to the American National Academy of Sciences. Hill received no formal academic honours, Carothers did not recognise the importance of the stringy water-based mixture which either then or later Worse, by 1934, Carothers had been joined by the bril-liant chemist Paul John Flory Hill had produced in a beaker The fibres, although exceptionally strong, were very coarse and difficult to control.

whose work on the theory of polymerisation not only led Within a year, however, following suggestions from the world but led the way into Carothers, Hill produced the practical nylon fibre producfirst true nylon - nylon 6.6. tion. Paradoxically, for his advances in theory and funda-mental work on nylon and, "Perhaps I was a bit lucky" ' he said later. (Nylon is a trade later, on neoprene rubbers, Flory was awarded the Nobel name covering a large group of polymers. The "ny" comes from New York where nylon Prize for chemistry in 1974.

shadows Carothers, a brilliant esearch director but a man torn by depressive illness might have shared the Nobel award had he not committed suicide in a period of profound depression shortly after his marriage in 1937. Hill continlaboratory, initially under Flory, but his part in the drama faded quickly from the world's memory. With the exception of the

tough yet incredibly sheer stockings brought over by GIs and which quickly graced the legs of a large number of British women, nylon was confined during the second world war to more serious military uses. It rapidly found its way

Once again Hill was left in the | into aircraft-tyre reinforcement, into rot-proof fabrics and ropes and, crucially, into the manufacture of immensely strong and light parachutes in which fine uncrushable pylon replaced silk. The lives of members of the

"Caterpillar Club" — those who parachuted to safety from aerial combat - no longer depended on a fine natural silken thread, but on the fibre first produced by Hill and Carothers. Hill received no spe-cific financial reward for his part in all this, for the patent belonged to Du Pont. He just

carried on working in same laboratory until his retirement in 1964 where, he later explained, he had always been treated very well.

Julian Hill was a very January 27, 1996

gentle person, an amateur nat uralist a lover of the country ide, a violinist and a sports man. In an interview in 1988. seemingly regretting the industrial choice of nylon and other non-degradable plastics nstead of the cellulo products on which he had worked in the twenties (and which are broken down by natural processes), he said that he thought that "man-kind will perish by being smothered in plastic." He is not along in this rise. not alone in this view Hill leaves a wife, Polly, a daughter and two sons.

Anthony Tucket

Julian Hill, research chemist born September 4, 1904; died



Leg work . . . Julian Rill with strands of nylon at a celebration to mark the 50th anniversary of its discovery

Arthur Martin

The hunter who wouldn't let go

RTHUR MARTIN, who | confess in return for immuhas died aged 81, was one of MI5's leading nity from prosecution. Philby confessed and promptly escaped to the Soviet Union. Sir Dick White, Hollis's prenolehunters who became obed with the spectre of Soviet penetration of Britsor as head of MI5, then ain's security and intelli-gence establishment in the fif-ties and sixties. sent Martin to Malaya to reorganise counter-insurgency operations against communis guerrillas. After he returned Martin was a close

ague of Peter Wright, the to Britain in 1959, he headed author of Spycatcher. Like Wright, he was educated at a investigations which led to the arrest and conviction of state school, and they both the Soviet spies Gordon Lonsresented what they consid-ered to be the high-handed dale, Harry Houghton, and Ethel Gee in 1961, and of John Vassall the following year. and complacent attitude of Martin's continuing inves-tigations, and his burrowing the public-school officer class. But while Wright believed Sir Roger Hollis, the former head of MIS, was a Soviet agent, through the files, were rewarded by evidence from a Martin was convinced that former Cambridge scholar in the guilty man was Hollis's deputy, Graham Mitchell. the US that Anthony Blunt

had been a Soviet agent. In 1964, he was asked to ap-Martin had a spell in the proach Blunt and offer him second world war with the Radio Security Service, which immunity from prosecution. intercepted enemy wireless communications. He left after Later that year, Martin iragged a confession out of John Cairncross, the so-called discovering that he was useless at Morse code and joined Fifth Man, who admitted giv-GCHQ where, as a liaison offiing Moscow information incer with MI5, he was the first to learn — from the CIA tercepted by the Goverment Code & Cypher School - the that the atom scientist Klaus Fuchs was a Soviet agent. His suspicions, which later forerunner of GCHGQ -about German military prepa rations before the crucial inspired his conspiracy theo-ries, were encouraged by his

battle of Kursk in 1943. But his insistence that there the as another unidentified mole

Julia Stonor writes: In 1947 John Foster, QC, Fellow of All Souls, hrought Marcia Daven-port (Obituary, January 27) safely out of Czecholslovakia before the death of her lover. Jan Masaryk. Safely installed in a white

Letter

house between Shiplake and Wargrave in Berkshire, Marcia became a close friend of Sherman and Jeanne Stonor, and introduced to them an American washing-machine. Her flery, fascinating temperament seemed to mark time with the strength of its gyrations, bouncing up and down on a flagged floor. Despite the intensity of her personality, or because of it, she was a compelling and unforgettable force, evon a series of contradictions.

Birthdays Christie Brinkley, supermodel, 42; Andrew Davis, conductor, 52; Sir Norman Fowler, MP, former chairman, Conservative Party, 58; Valery Giscard d'Estaing. former president of France, 70: Hughie Green. quizmaster, 76: David Jason, actor, 56; Sir Chips Keswick, chair man, Hambros Bank, 56; Barry McGuigan, boxer, 35; David Newton, jazz planist, composer. 38; Libby Purves, writer and broadcaster. 46; Brid Rodgers, SDLP spokesperson on women's issues, 61: Elaine Stritch, actress and

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Jamie Uys

Pathfinder for a generation . . . Jamie Uys at work on Beautiful People, 1974

One man's reality before the dawn in South Africa

rector to gain international recognition with the serenlipitous box-office success of The Gods Must Be Crazy (1981). During the darkest-before-the-dawn days of apart-heid, this unsophisticated, slapstick culture-clash comedy drew audiences everywhere. It became the highest-grossing foreign movie over in France where it showed for months, outdoing An Officer And A Gentleman and Tootsie, ran a year in Portugal, and broke all re-cords in Malaysia. The Queen Mother is supposed to have

seen it three times, Explanations for the uni-versal appeal of this story of a Rushman's contact with "civilisation" would be its artlessness, its reliance on visual

Jackdaw

Fashion victim

months looking at and taking pictures of Bushmen in Namibia. Botswana and the northern Cape," explained Uys. "I wanted to see every Bushman in the whole world before I chose my man. I came back with 40 to 50 photo-graphs. He just stood out." He was Nixau (pronounced with that unique Xhosa clicking sound), a hunter along the Namibia-Botswana border. knew from the start that to

knew from the start that to make a contract with him would not be easy. Money means nothing to him," Uys commented. "Most of the money he earned is still in a trust fund. To Nixau, making the film, like everything else the whites did, was a game." With a tight budget - Uys funded all his films himself comedy, its animals, its | The Gods Must Be Crazy took

to show them something for their money and they might want a say in what went into my picture." Uys (pronounced ace), an Uys (pronounced ace), an Afrikaner, was born in the small Transvaal town of Boksburg and studied mathe-matics at the University of Pretoria. After three years teaching, he decided to join his father-in-law farming on bis father-in-law farming on the banks of the Palala River in the north-west Transvaal.

It was here that he made his first film, Daar Doer in die Bosveld (Down in the Bushveid) in 1949 for £3,000 using a 16mm home movie camera. It was shown in church and school halls across the country and at a cinema in Pretoria. However, it was an other 10 wass for more wade other 10 years before he made his first commercial film, an

AMIE UYS, who has underlying ecological mes-died of a heart attack sage and, above all, the natu-aged 74, was the first ral playing of the Bushman South African film di-himself. "I spent three to four "because I would feel obliged owned to raise the capital and lease equipment." As the South African film industry was virtually non-

existent. Uys soon became a one-man movie company, Under apartheid, the few indigenous pictures that were

made in South Africa were mainly wildlife features and crude comedies in Afrikaans. side the country. Uys decided to examine in

broad comic terms the social tensions between the English and Afrikaans rather than be-tween black and white. However, some critics found his portrait of the self-sufficient Bushman in his hit film and its sequel, The Gods Must Be Crazy II (1989) rather pater-nalistic, the herces being a young Aryan couple. A certo limit the damage. tain condescension applied to

all races, especially in his Candid Camera-type films like Beautiful People. Uys's desire to make movies in part sprang from a love for silent. movie comedians, especially

PHOTOMONTAGE: RONALD GRANT

Chaplin and Keaton. The South African film critic Barry Ronge com-mented that in that country today, Uys might look like the great "baas" of apartheid cin-ema, "but he worked within a given situation and laughed at the Afrikaner and sent his

country up in a way nobody has ever done on film before. He really was a cornerstone. Without him a whole generation of subsequent South Afri-can film makers would not have had a career."

Ronald Bergan

Jamle Uys, film producer-direc tor-writer, born May 30, 1921; died January 29, 1996

notorious Cambridge spy in the agency, and his increas ring. As a case officer with a ingly intemperate attitude sharp, analytical mind, Marprompted Hollis to suspend tin was asked to prepare the questioning of Kim Philby by the barrister and wartime MIS officer, "Buster" Milmo, in 1951 after the defection of Martin from MI5. Like his CLA counterpart. James Jesus Angleton, he had become consumed by suspicion, compounded by resentment. Sir Dick White, then head of MI6, asked Martin to join Guy Burgess and Donald Mac-lean. Both Milmo and Martin were convinced that Philby him. Martin remained at MI6 was the Third Man who had until he retired, five years ware stymic off Maclean; but they were stymicd by the lack of hard evidence and the estab-lishment's desperate attempts later, in 1969, when he took on a job as a committee clerk in the House of Commons. He is survived by his

second wife, Joan. Martin was further frus-trated when Nicholas Elliott, **Richard Norton-Taylor** an Eton-educated former

friend of Philby's, rather than he, was sent to Beirut in 1963 Arthur Sydney Martin, spycatcher, born February 15, 1914; to persuade the Third Man to died January 10, 1998

Another Day

At his first coming on board us, he had so much forgot his language for want of use, that we could scarce understand him, for he seemed to speak his words by halves. We of-fer'd him a dram, but he would not touch it heaving February 2, 1709: Our pinnace | return'd from the shore, and return'd from the shore, and brought abundance of craw-fish with a man cloth'd in goat-skins, who look'd wilder than the first owners of them. He had been on the island four years and four months ... His name was Alexander Selkirk, a Scotchman ... By the care of Providence, and signor of his worth being would not touch it, having drank nothing but water since his being there, and 'twas some time before he could relish our victuals. The find-ing of Robinson Crusce, from Woodes Rogers, A Crusing Voyage Around the World, London, 1712. vigour of his youth, being now about 30 years old, he came at last to conquer all the inconveniences of his soli-

as we were with Clerks. Hopefully it won't be judged

against Clerks — "Gee, more money, but less funny" or something like that. There was also a conscious effort to make something that was a little more mainstream. If you go straight into making your obscure arthouse movies, you get labelled right away. We decided to throw a curve ball and do something mainstream. We'll continue to flip back and forth between

commercial and arthouse. Q. What will the next film be? A. Very arthouse. It's a film called Dogma about Christian Catholicism. It's a Hitch-hiker's Guide To Catholicism. Q. Is it true that Malirats is part two in a trilogy? A. Yes, and Dogma's the third. There might be a tril-ogy outside the trilogy. It started now with Mallrats, which is hardcore about com ics. I think there will be two more movies like that and the third one will be this ridiculous explosion of it. In ECIR SER. the meantime, we're still in the middle of this Jersey tril-

ogy, so each one will lead into

Death Notices

PRASER, Caroline Many, vici-entry on 29th Januar, in Colord Beloved Jaupater of Sar Angus Praser and Mits Margary Hommings and much loved saler of Januar Homeral service will be hold al 51 McCharl 5 Church Hungsala NK al 11.30am 35 Proto, 50 Feb-nasry Rokowed by commend at Heingate Genetity Powers i does of and enguirres to Leventon & Sons Lad 1 Commark Tra-mice, Forth Garcen, N2 9HG, Talephony 0187 444 5753.

ROTHWELL, (Botty Elisen) Isimerti, Ash-fon ner Paul On January 35th 1996 when 79 years of Choyde Hulme, Cheshin, dearty lowed wite of twy Leis Edain Rich-well and Bornard Achien, much (oved mother of Mished and Gillar, gain of Nit-and Graham sister of Jorch and Gordon stephother at Sylvas, Astron and Noslle mother of Mished and Chinar, gain of Nit-and Craham sister of Jorch and Noslle mother of Sylvas, Astron and Noslle mother of Sylvas, Astron and Noslle dearest fined of Gorone Houghton Sovietz-al Cheedie Hulme Niehorial Church an Monday February Shi al Site prior 1: committed Al Stockport Clematorian Mi 300, Mi Rovers made to British Heart Foundabons All engines and donations to Ben Lloyd (FD) Lid El Station Road Chea-die Hulme SK8 7A. TEL 0161 485 3135 or 01625 A22717

Births

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CONGRATULATIONS to Danielle Harberg and Lynn Parker on the birth of twos Puby and Eleanor Love Num and Das Harborg To place your annound which, telephone 0171 611 9050

the next. So you have trilogy upon trilogy, and the second movie of each trilogy starts a new trilogy Somewhere down the line I'd like to do a superhero movie. like a Bat-man. It'll never happen. though, because I'm too afraid of a budget like that, and I'd be afraid not to make it jokey. Either that or a Jaws. I would love to revive that franchise. We need more killer shark movies. Low-budget American director Kevin Smith, whose first film Clerks was highly successful. winning a prize at Cannes, interviewed about his new film. Mallrats, in Hypno. The mall seems to be Smith's natu ral habitat: "Thui's what life is, he told Hypno. your chick breaks up with you, so there's nothing hetter to do than hang out in the mall."

Jackdaw wants your lewels, E-.co.uk; fax 0171-713 4366; Jackdaw, The Guardian, 119 Farringdon Road, London

mail jackdaw@guardian-

Dan Glaister

with the perfectly cut seam of plebs in snow-washed and the correct shade of tor-toiseshell button. It is often said that sex sells anything. But in fashion it is

ing Obsession ads to Gianni Versace's pseudo-hookers with hearts of polished steel, the rag trade hawks the promise of having those de-signer labels ripped off your back in the heat of passion. Couturiers who coo over their face-lifted clients are

DO FASHION designers ever nothing more than pimps. Ex-cept that real pimps would get laid? Do they ever get to live out the fantasies they sell swiftly go out of business if they encouraged their prote-gees to don bubble skirts or to the rest of us?... There is a profound flaw running through the fashion industry layers of tattered chiffon Up where the air is as thin as Jodie Kidd's thigh, at the like the California earthquake fault-line. Those who make their living from fasheffete and precious peak of designer labelism, there is a belief that those who balk at ion do so by promoting the belief that their creations will make you or me compaying the price of a secondpletely irresistible to the obhand car for a dress decoects of our desire. sending rated with dripped latex are philistines. "They just don't understand," the frockmeisthem into a frenzy of uncontrollable lust. But who is fashioning this resultwear? ters wail, like distressed fe-People who long ago sublimales at a PMS support minated their sexual desires group. It is not they who are into an unnatural obsession warped, but the hoards [sic]

4

denim and shell-suits, who wouldn't know the difference between pebble wool crèpe and parchment viscose ier the other way around. From Calvin Klein's heavy-breathit. But at least the common of attraction — they've got the kids to prove it, even if little Rylie and Jason were conceived thanks to a red, strappy, catalogue mini-dress with puckered seams and Visible Panty Line. Lowri Turner comes over all

E must go

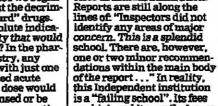
SORRY, STING ... but we thought you were moonwalking when you declared that the illicit drug Ecstasy should be legalised. As a celebrity with thousands of fans, and bearing in mind that there have been recent deaths in

the UK after ingestion of Ecstasy, you cannot have been surprised at the furore that followed. Nevertheless, while us discover theless, while we disagree with you, we can empathise. Near the

end of 1995 the Lancet

called for the decriminalisa-tion of cannabis for personal possession — and we were criticised in letters afterwards. Back in 1991 we began to speculate about the decrim-inalisation of "hard" drugs. Is there an absolute indica-tor of drug toxicity that would sey if their Giros depended on people understand the rules ban use of a drug? In the phar-maceutical industry, any drug associated with just one or two unexplained acute deaths at normal dose would either not be licensed or be anti-fashion for the men's fash ion and features mag. Arena.

In the wake of the Leah Betts case, and others, the Lancet



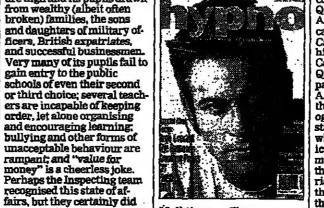
withdrawn. A pharmaceutical that was associated with the number of immediate and idiosyncratic serious reactions seen with E would suf-fer a similar fate. And that is ficers, British expatriates, and successful businessme in the face of therapeutic gain to be had from the prescribed compound. E has no therapeutic value, although some or and unoice, several teacher ers are incapable of keeping order, let alone organising and encouraging learning; bullying and other forms of unacceptable behaviour are rampant; and "value for moner" is a chearless take users claim a social one. We see no reason why the acute, unpredictable but real toxicity of an illicit drug should be viewed differently from that of a medicinal product. On the known data, E must remain banned. money" is a cheerless joke. Perhaps the Inspecting team recognised this state of af-

comes out against Ecstasy.

Money talks

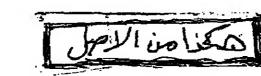
From a report entitled "OFFSTED and ONWARD: a MOST independent school in contribution to the school inspections appear to be exer-cises in mutual admiration. Reports are still along the spection debate" published by

CFBT Education Services. Thanks to David Smith.



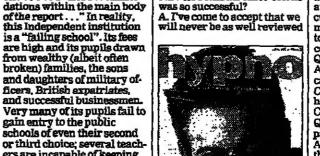
Mall time . . . Hypno

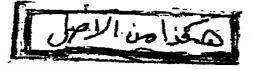
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i not report it.

Mailrat Q. DID YOU feel a lot of pre-sure for Mallrats since Clerks was so successful? A. I've come to accept that we will never be as well reviewed





Friday February 2 1996

'Biotech babes' take a bath, page 12

A day for special situations, page 12

Financial Editor: Alex Brummer Telephone: 0171-239-9610 Fax: 0171-833-4456

FinanceGuardian

Hanson in comfort call to demerger doubters

Roger Cown

Leading credit rating agen-ties have already warned that they will be reviewing the status of the group's debt.

ANSON was yester-day desperately try-ing to keep its de-merger plans on track after initial enthusiasm In the teleconference with Hanson finance director Andrew Dougal, bondholders were reassured that every effort would be made to main-tain the rating of the out-standing debt. The message from Mr Dougall, that the de-merger had only recently for breaking up Lord Han-son's £10 billion empire gave way to grave doubts about the value of the exercise for shareholders and the impact been thought of, raised specu-lation that the news was rushed out on Tuesday to pre-empt criticism at the annual

anarcholders and the impact on bondholders. Around £1 billion has been wiped off the value of the shares in the past two days as investors worry about future dividends. The shares yester-day closed 9b lower et 192 750 day closed 9p lower at 193.75p. They had risen to 211.5p when plans to float off three separate businesses from the con-glomerate were announced on Tuesday.

Hanson was forced to arrange a hasty tele-conference yesterday to try to placate angry holders of bonds issued only four months ago. While bondholders are unlikely to be in a position to block the demerger, they could make it very expensive. One banker said: "If one or more of these bonds has the power to block a transaction, then they (the holders) need to be bought of

in some way." This would probably mean Hanson paying investors more then redemption value for their holdings. Bondholders who sub-

scribed for the \$750 million issue in September, furiously claim that they were told at the time that there was no prospect of a demerger.

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After the break-up announcement, the value of the bonds fell amid fears that the rump company would be a less means loveriment

meeting on Wednesday or to fend off a potential predator. The price did recover after yesterday's conference call, though one participant said it was essentially a public rela-tions exercise. "There was not a lot of fresh news", said Tony Moverley of Merrill Lynch. 'It was a comfort Lynch. call." A Hanson spokesman said the call had gone well, with none of the bondholding insti-tutions raising the question of

last September's demerger comments. The finance direc-tor said that work on the demerger started only four or five weeks ago and there was a huge amount of work still to

Mr Dougal assured holders that the bonds would remain that the bonds would remain in the continuing Henson plc and the division of the group would aim to leave that com-pany with sufficient cash to ensure that the bonds retained their current rat-ings. He confirmed that the six different bonds in issue current he insufficient out of cannot be transferred out of Hanson without bondholders'

permission. One investor said the price of the boads would suffer be-

Sarah Ryle



Boost for economy from manufacturers and shops

Exports and factory orders spring surprise

published yesterday added to the recent crop of data unexpected recovery in de- | rate of production was reduc-IV IOF COLISIL goods. Order books were at their healthiest since August abling more firms to deliver goods on time and helped confidence is on the upturn. Ian Shepherdson, an econ 1894. stave off inflationary omist at HSBC Green well, said: "Shoppers seem to have enjoyed a Christmas on That lightaned the gloomy Drassure. They suggested that domesoutlook for manufacturing tic destocking also partially explained lower imports from European Union countries, a key force behind the overall employment, which declined for the first time in two years, tick, but there must be some doubt as to whether this rate and output, which hit its low-est point since October 1992. of borrowing can be sustained. Chean credit is certainly encouraging people to borrow rather than use Overall, the CIPS survey -UK trade deficit, which was at closely monitored by the Treasury and Bank of Eng-land — showed a slight deits lowest since March last savings, but as savings invear. terest rates fall further As exports to the EU rose cline in activity in January compared with December. by 3.5 per cent, imports fell by 1.5 per cent, taking the deficit there could well be a switch back to cash over the next Adam Cole, an analyst at James Capel, said: "With few months." The City said the underlyto £131 million, the lowest gap since August 1993. Trade with Germany, a cruoverall activity unlikely to acing upward trend remained cial export market, weakened celerate, the scope for further intact as the average rise in consumer credit during the rate cuts remains. but sales to France and the Alex Garrard of UBS said: "Weaker activity appears to second half of last year Benelux countries rose, ac-cording to the Central Statisrose to £690 million from have resulted from a deple-tion of excess stocks. But the tical Office. The headline deficit of £570 million in the first six months. The annual con-sumer credit growth rate £567 million was helped by the fall in the previously improvement in the new orders balance provides a fur-ther indication that manufacover the three months to De reported deficit with non-EU cember rose to 14.9 per cent turing could soon resume its upward trend." from 13.7 per cent at the cor responding time a year ago. countries in November to £436 million from £1,125 mil-

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VISA STATEMENT

terCard together would

handle more than \$1.750 bil-

lion by the end of the century.

He said the secure pay-ments system depended upon

software on the purchaser's

justed statistics. For the summer is now being over | ing gradually for six months

"The positive influences

now prevailing on the hous-

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Compounding the risk factor



Edited by

Notebook

ibility of the German cur-rency. If European monetary union is delayed, therefore, watch the mark take off.

11

In the short run at least, conventional wisdom might be worth a second look, how ever. Forget history for a moment. Would a country with more than four million unemployed, low growth and rising government debt levels. which is also racked with worry over social costs and labour market flexibility, nor-maily have one of the work!'s strongest currencies and command the premium rating presently attaching to Ger-

man assets? The Bundesbank may not have chosen to follow the US Federal Reserve's lead towards lower official interest rates yesterday but its nearmost 25 per cent knocked of its stock market value after it constant trimming of the repo rate in recent days shows it u announced it was calling a as Aware as anyone of what is halt to research into a com-pound aimed at the treatment man economy. Another

the likes of Motorola

ble given the nature of the industries in which such companies work, and the size of most of the companies concerned.

sectors. A new drug either works or it doesn't; the latest computer gizmo may become the industry standard or dis-appear without trace. Just

NUMBER of Britain's Acorporate survivors have reason to be grateful to what is known as the

Mark Milner TOCK markets are he-Scoming used to equating hi-tech shares, whether in pharmaceuticals or electronics, with high volatility. The biotech company Celltech was merely the latest of in a longish line of companies to experience wild investor mood swings when it saw al-

would-be EMU core country. France, which shares at least some of Germany's problems,

After the devaluations following the collapse of the exchange rate mechanism, it is monetary union's outsiders that provide better bond market returns and their economies, on some counts at least. look to be in better shape. So there may be money in buck-ing convention. Italian bond holders, for example, might be tempted to say: "Yes, I'm wrong — and I'm getting a 10 per cent return for being so." They shouldn't bank on it for too long, though. After all,

the new Italian prime minister says he wants Italy to rejoin the ERM!

Rescue mission the Betamaz video system?

could hardly resist the chance offered and reduced its rates

Investment in hi-tech is not just risky, it is also expensive.

of asthma. Nor was Celltech the only sufferer. As is the way of hi techs, bad news in one part of the sector casts a damper over others. So yesterday other British biotechs took a knock just as US electronic stocks have in the past been driven up and down by naws from and Microsoft. The excitement is inevita

Both industries are faced with more make-or-break events than in more stable

look at the effort Microsoft put into establishing Win dows 95. Who now remembers

By floating of three mot try-based groups, Hanson will be left with collection of construction-related interests including ARC in the UK and Grove Cranes in the US. The with weaker finances than the existing group, although one analysi said: "Big is not necessarily better. The balance sheet will be constructed with a debt rating in mind."

Unilever bags top Irish brew

date.-

Tony May looks at the changing blend of ireland's strong tea market

Other own addictions - each Californian gets through 310 bottles of Coke a year, second only to the 398 bottles a bead drunk in Iceland — but in these damp isles tea is the tipple and the big drinkers

are the Irish. The Republic of Ireland has an estimated average consumption per head of 3.21 kilogrammes a year. That works out at roughly 321 pots of tea each and beats the 260 pots per head downed in the second-

placed UK. All this has not been lost upon Unilever. The giant Anglo-Dutch group owns the PG brand and in the UK is neck and neck with Tetley — a company recently sold off by Allied-Domecq. blended with leaf from Unilever already has its Lipton brand in Ireland but

Assam. This is closer to yesterday became the big-gest tea producer there by snapping up control of much of Britain.

ie ot t the next nine months as de-tails of the break-up are RITAIN'S weakened worked out.

economy is on course to buck pessimistic fore-An adviser to the company said: "Clearly there is a lot of casts of a deepening decline after figures released yester-day showed a narrowing uncertainty around, but the response to the conference call has been positive. There trade gap and a pick-up in is a lot more work to be done, manufacturing orders. But any improvement is unbut it has made investors see what the likely outcome will likely to rule out another in-terest rate cut by Chancellor

Kenneth Clarke, according to analysis. The UK trade gap with the rest of the world fell by nearly a third to \$567 million in November, much better than the £900 million deficit the City bad expected. Separate data showed that although manufacturing ac tivity remained weak, order books picked up in January suggesting a brighter outlook

Lyons Irish Holdings, Allied Domecq's business, for £74.3 million. The for factories. The latest monthly snapshot of manufacturing by the Chartered Institute of Purmoney has bought an initial 75 per cent and Unilever plans to buy the remaining share at a later chasing Managers showed an

Through its Green Label Credit card and other brands, Lyons leads the Irish tea market firms make which is worth around £41 million a year. From its Internet base in Dublin the group's 230 staff blend and package the tea which brought advance

Lyons a pre-tax profit of £13 million in the 18 months to August 1995, on Nicholas Bannister Technology Editor

turnover of £38.5 million. Of course weight of num-bers can defeat the most he-WISA and MasterCard, the world's largest issuers of payment cards, have agreed roic efforts and so, just as a market for Coke as Calito develop jointly a secure online payments system in an attempt to break the biggest fornia, the UK is a much times as much. But there is still a powerful thirst to be barrier to trading over the Internet

lan Wylie

Most people are reluctant to likely to become the de-facto give their credit card details global standard. assnaged over there. The Tea Council, which over the Internet because almost anyone can hijack the Visa executive, said that his company expected to handle knows such things. says that the Irish like a good mformation. However, Visa and Mastertransactions worth up to strong brew of Kenya teas

Card yesterday announced \$700 billion (£475 billion) this PC. Authentication of both plans to work together to cre- | year, and that Visa and Mas- | vendor and purchaser would | Knutson said.

Analysts said the aluggish lior

ate a technical standard for

safeguarding payment card purchases made over open networks such as the Inter-

net. The companies, which had

been working on separate schemes, intend to publish

standards for a joint system later this month for comment

and have a specification ready for testing by the

spring or early summer. As a result, banks should be able

to offer secure card services via the Internet some time be-

tween October and December.

The size of their operations

neans that any system they

agree upon, provided it proves to be unbreakable, is

Kelly Knutson, & senior

whole year, net mortgage lending was down by more

than a fifth on 1994.

PHOTOGRA take place automatically KipperWilliams when an order form was completed. After that it was up to the vendor to carry out the normal checks on a purchas

SHOPPERS hunting for

Sarah Ryle.

ales bargains after a busy

run-up to Christmas on the high strest helped push con-sumer borrowing to £796 million in December, writes

Bank of England Ogures

er's ability to pay. He said the card companies would be able to check automatically whether information sent by the vendor or purchaser had been altered.

He accepted that no system could be 100 per cent secure, but added: "We are striving to be more secure than today physical payments."

The two groups believe that a secure online payments system will not pose a threat to the development and accep tance of cash-less electronic money systems such as Mon-dex, which is undergoing

they are still 1.2 per cent lower than during the corre-

sponding period last year.

trials in Swindon. "If anything, it will set the tone for encouraging people to exchange value in the elec tronic market place," Mr

ments is to be closed.

iven li als inke Chaxo met come or Motorola can make or lose many millions in a product launch. High risks can bring bigh

winner, or to pile out again

That desperation amplifies the natural volatility of the

businesses, creating wilder

swings in share prices. That is hard luck on the companies

which would no doubt prefer

more stable background

But it makes the returns even

higher for those who don't

just pick the winners, but pick the time to buy.

Mark of weakness

monetary union in 1999.

change-based activity.

the law.

ONVENTIONAL cur-

when had news emerges.

London Approach, having been dragged back from the abyss by the willingness of lenders to work out a solution to debt problems on an onreturns or heavy losses. going basis, rather than sim-ply sending in the receivers. The Bank of England likes to present this as a market-Hence the desperation of in-vestors to pile into stocks which claim to have hit on a

driven approach, with its own role limited to that of missionary, broadcasting the Approach's merits, or as peace-maker when banks and bond bolders threaten to fall out, It is, however, a fairly safe assumption that at least some of the peacemaking has been of a pretty muscular kind.

Now, however, the Bank is seeking to take the process a stage further, arguing that the philosophy which under-pins the London Approach could usefully be given an international dimension, not least because the idea of harmonising national insolvency

rency market wisdom has produced a German regimes is just too difficult. conundrum. The strength of the mark is a drag on the Ger-Just how the Approach could be brought to a wider man economy and hence (be-cause of the debt and deficit audience is rather vague, as is the role the Bank itself might play. The fostering of criteria) on the country's chances of qualifying for an international "rescue culture" certainly looks a worthwhile, if difficult, exercise. At a time when the restructuring

Yet, oddly, the more likely Germany is to meet the criteria. the weaker the mark will of central banking in Europe become because the Euro, is on the horizon, it might also bring the Bank a usefully into which it will be subumed, will not have the credwider role, too.

Regulators close loophole used by forex bucket shops

British dealers had assumed that foreign-exchange speculation was not covered by the 1986 Financial Services OREIGN-EXCHANGE bucket-shops which tempt Act, and therefore they did not require authorisation. the SIB has consulted with the Treasury and the Bank of England, among others, and decided that "rolling" foreign-exchange deals - bargains that are specula-tive rather than simply a pur-The Securities and Invest chase of foreign currency ments Board — the chief fi-

nance regulator --- has given the estimated 30-plus firms indo require authorisation when they are sold to private volved in the market until individuals. March 1 to apply for member-ship of the Securities and Fu-This view is open to legal

challenge by aggrieved fortures Authority which polices | eign-exchange firms, who stockbroking and other exnow have less than a month to apply for SFA membership. Anyone continuing to offer The new regime will not af-

fect money-changing services foreign-exchange speculations to the public after that at banks and airports, nor date who has either not apdoes it apply to the forex operplied or has been refused ations of big banks and commembership will be breaking panies or of speculators such as George Soros.

TOURIST RATES	- BANK SELLS		
Australia 1.97 Austria 15.20 Belgium 44.75 Canada 2.02 Cyprus 0.7025 Denmark 8.47 Finiand 8.81	India 55.05 Ireland 0.95 Israel 4.74	Italy 2,350 Malta 0.54 Netherlands 2.46 New Zealand 2.21 Norway 9.61 Portugal 227 00 Saudi Arabia 5.60 Saudi Arabia 5.60	Singapore 2.11 South Ainca 5.36 Spain 183.00 Sweden 10.35 Switzerland 1.77 Turkey 90,519 USA 1.48

Bank shows mortgage lending to be at a three-year low

COULTER.

One for the pot Average number of pots of tea drunk a year, per person HE Bank of England yes-Top ten and bottom two Rep of Ireland 111 214 Kuwal 208 Turkey 194 Oatar 167 Syria 162 Hone Kone 146

Tunisia 146 Inar 130 Bahrain Italy 🛛 🛥 Thailand 🖡 f

	terday confounded the	The number of
321	dwindling band of housing	
	market optimists with new	to 232,000 durin
0	figures showing the lowest	three months of 19
10 M 4	level of net mortgage lending	figure masks the
	in almost three years.	trend for borr
	A separate survey pub-	remortgage with
	lished today by the Halifax	lenders.
1.4.1	will compound the gloom by	
(25	revealing that house prices	eral of the Counc
1. 1. 2	remain stagnant.	gage Lenders, adr
4 A A	Net mortgage lending by	the figures showe
	banks and building societies	picture, but pr
	fell during the final three	"slow, measured"
	months of 1995 to £3.5 billion.	over the next 12 mc
	the lowest level since the be-	He said: "Looki
	ginning of 1993, according to	vear as a whole, it

mortgages sed slightly repetition of such a mid-year ug the last đip in 1996." 995, but the ie growing years, net lending by banks exceeded that of the building rowers to h cheaper societies, although the figures were distorted by Lloyds Bank's takeover of Cheltenlirector-gen ham & Gloucester building cil of Mortsociety. mitted that In a separate report pub-lished today the Halifax --ed a mixed redicted a

recovery onths. dng at the during January. seems that the Bank's seasonally ad- the trough in activity last

The average price paid last month by first-time buyers ing market should prevent a was £44.633, compared with For the first time in two an average of £71,023 paid by established homeowners moving house. Halifax spokesman David Gilchrist said that the lender's optimism about a recovery was "still tinged

with caution" but the Halifax was sticking to its forecast of a 2 per cent rise in house which intends to take on bank prices by the end of the year. status next year — says house prices rose by just 0.1 per cent predicted that the cost of buying a home in 1996 would fall While prices have been ris- to its lowest level since 1978.

ordinary investors into high-

risk currency deals face a crackdown, City regulators

announced yesterday . A loophole allowing exchange dealers to avoid licensing require-

Dan Atkinson

12 FINANCE AND ECONOMICS

The Guardian Friday February 2 1996

Welsh Water alters name

ELSH Water hopes to add the ring of confidence to its reputation by changing its

Welsh for "confidence", byder was described by the group as indicative of its philosophy. Welsh is in the final

stages of buying South Wales Electricity and its decision to change its group identity is in line with the precedent set by North West Water, now United Utilities, which changed its name after buying Norweb. Welsh intends to abolish the 15 per cent limit on shareholdings and has ap-pointed a new board of di-rectors to Swalec. The new Swalec chief executive is former Manweb chief John Roberts, pictured. He lost his job after Manweb fell prey to takeover by Scot-

PHOTOGRAPH



Biotech boom turns sickly

Patrick Denoven City Editor

tish Power.

UNDREDS of millions of pounds were wiped off the value of biotechnology shares yesterday as the wonder stock Celltech undermined confidence in the entire sector by announcing plans to scrap development of an asthma drug. The news saw Celltech shares fall by 163p to 518p because the asthma preparation had been viewed as crucial to its growth prospects. The shock sent shivers

throughout the "blotech- with knowledge of the sector babes" as analysts woke up to pointed out that more than the commercial risks faced by 50 per cent of drugs trials do drugs companies trying to denot result in a commercially velop new products. viable product. Chiroscience Group shed 15p to 285p, British Blotech fell 10p to 221, while Scotia One said: "This just shows how reality has been missing in the City's perception of what makes biotech firms Holdings was 7p lighter at 604p. Even the largest pharmatick Celltech had been attempt-ing to develop the CDP 340 asthma drug in partnership with the US group Merck. Celltech insisted that the set-back did not mean the part-nership would end and said that both firms were still looking at new drugs within ceutical concerns were hit even though their huge drug portfolios mean they are less

vulnerable to the collapse of a single product. Zeneca fell 13p to 1,275p and Glazo Wellcome was down 9p at 953p. Although Celltech's news looking at new drugs within shocked the City, analysts the respiratory sector.

fürm.

Peter Feliner, the compe-ny's chief executive, said: "We and Merck are going to continue our efforts in this area. We want to send out the large their there is mail to set out the large there is a set out the merce their there is a set of the large the large the large there is a set out the set out the set out the large the message that there is real hope we can have blockbuster drugs here." He added that CDP 840 had been working but Celltech wanted a drug

with greater ability to pre-vent asthma being caused by the initial contraction of air pipes in the lung. The share price collapse marks a sharp reversal in one

of the market's wonder stocks. Celltech shares have been as high as 695p this year. They were tipped earlier this

£5.4 million for the last financial year, despite increasing spending on research and de velopment. It is also looking at drugs for inflammatory bowel disorders and arthritis. which are undergoing ad-vanced medical trials.

The collapse in biotechnol-ogy confidence will also come as a heavy blow to Rothschild, which two years ago launched a specialist Biotech-nology Trust to concentrate

on investing in the sector.

Celltech Group Share price, pence 1.2 1.

400

300

DJ

1996 1995



newspapers will respond to the easing of cost pressures by increasing the number of

pages and sections and then charging more. Most news-

News in brief

Britannia poised to issue loyalty bonus

BRITANNIA, the country's sixth largest building society and a staunch defender of mutual ownership, said yesterday it would announce details of a loyalty bonus scheme for members within the next couple of months. Britannia, the first building society to moot the idea of paying loyalty bonuses to members, said that its package of incentives would reward existing and future borrowers and

Chief executive John Heaps said that Britannia was firmly Committed to "an updated, modern form of mutuality". Meanwhile, it reported pro-tax profits of £112 million for the 12 months to the end of December — a rise of 12 per cent. Britannia's loan book increase by 4 per cent, due mainly to the purchase of Lloyds Bowmaker's mortgage business last July. The Nationwide, which intends to announce a loyalty scheme in April, has cut its fixed rate mortgage rates by up to 0.75 per cent. --- Ion Wylle

Double cut in rates

THE German and French central banks have trimmed interest rates to combat mounting unemployment and avoid a recession in Europe's two biggest economies. The Bundesbank cut the key German money market rate by 10 basis points to 3.30 per cent, and markets speculated on more cuts in coming weeks. The Bank of France lowered its intervention rate, the floor to French rates, by 15 points to 4.05 are cent

The moves came a day after the US Federal Reserve cut its interest rates for the third time in six months and marked a worldwide effort by central banks to prevent economies from slipping back into the malaise of the early 1990s. Economists said the reductions would prod business activity. — Bloomberg

Midland staff jobs demo

MIDLAND Bank staff are planning to protest against job cuts outside some of the group's London and Essex branches over the next two weekends, banking union Bifu said yesterday. The protests are planned outside branches in Bromley and Waltham-stow today and in Islington, Lewisham and Southend at the

weekend. Bifu said Midland was planning to axe 3,341 jobs nationwide this year, 1,345 of them in London and the South-east. Midland said that despite the branch network redundancies, nearly 2,500 posts were being created in central processing and electronic banking. — Pauline Springett

Euro setback for Fokker

SHARES in Fokker, the Dutch aircraft maker under court protect sing the point of the point and the second s firm.

Alec McRitchie of Bombardier subsidiary Short Brothers in Belfast said the Canadian company was interested in Fokker but had no plans at the moment to acquire it. Short produces wings for the Fokker 70 and Fokker 100 jetliners. Samsung, South Korea's largest industrial company, is the only declared suitor. Bombardier has, however, an interest in keeping Fokker alive. About 1,500 of Short's 6,800 employees would be left without jobs if okker folds. — Blu

Hard line on currency

BUNDESBANK president Hans Tietmeyer last night reaffirmed Germany's hard line over a single currency by insisting that the Maastricht treaty economic convergence criteria must be inter-preted strictly to avoid the failure of economic and moretary is start at any waven the failure of economic and foospelly union. In an article in the World Economic Forum publication World Link, Mr Tistmeyer said that against a background of continuing speculation the antire EMU project could only be rescued by softening the criteria. He said: "It cannot be in the interests of the economy if a supersymptotic of the criteria's allows the administration of

generous interpretation (of the criteria) allows the admission of major trading partners who suddenly prove unable to maintain the pace of monetary union." Only a hard core of countries, "able to stay the course and meet the economic policy requirements of monetary union," should be allowed to join. -- Exter

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Source and the second se

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EWSPRINT suppliers Managed to impose

تصكفا من الاج

shore fields came on stream and cold weather boosted enengy demand, analysts at the Royal Bank of Scotland said vesterday.

OL and gas output surged last year to their highest

Oil production rose 2 per cent to 2.54 million harrels a day, coming close to 1985's record level of 2.59 million barreis, and the equivalent of 927 million barrels of oil a year --or 560 galions of oil for every person in Britain.

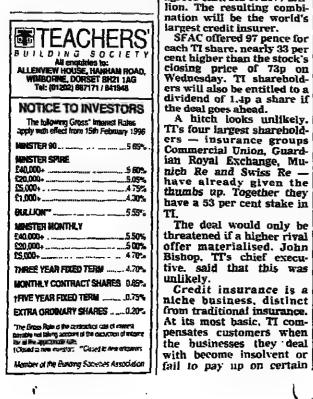
Gas output rose by R per cent to a record 7.2 billion cubic feet a day. Sales rose desplie the summer hot weather on the back on the chill in November and December.

The bank said December's gas output was a record 11.4 billion cubic feet a day. Ten new gas-producing fields came on stream during the year. Revenues for oil and gas e by 8.3 per cent to nearly £15 billion — or more than £41 million a day on average

- the bank calculated. Energy economist Mark Shea said output reflected the industry's success in using new technology to cut costs, **OUTLOOK**/French extract reserves from smaller fields and extend the life of fields. Further production in-creases were likely this year bid for UK No1 is relief. reports and next.

To cater for higher gas production Amoco and partners in the Central Area Trans mission System - the 22-mile pipeline that carries gas to the mainland — are to in-vest £70 million in facilities to process gas from fields under development.

BRITAIN'S largest credit insurer. Trade Indemnity. has fallen to the French. TI is being bought by its much larger Gallic rival. Compagnie Financière SFAC which vesterday. Langebed on The investment will secure jobs for 300 construction yesterday launched an workers on Teesside. agreed cash bid of £177 mil-



than 230 partners, yesterday sought to play down concerns over a £610 million writ by four Canadian banks relating to the collapse of London's Ca nary Wharf office develop ment

The firm said it had made a mistake in advising the banks but insisted there was no evidence to support their claim that its negligence had resuited in them losing £400 million.

Pauline Springett

LIFFORD Chance, Lon-don's largest commer-

The four Canadian banks have begun proceedings in Conada and England, claiming that Clifford Chance was negligent in advising them over loans made to Olympia and York, the holding com-pany for the Docklands devel-

show that they had lost lapsed. Instead, other banks money as a result of the firm's advice. In a statement which had lent directly to the operating companies were able to capitalise on their sethe firm said: "If the banks curity and the reconstruction pursue the claim, they will have to provide evidence of of the enterprise was carried the alleged loss. They have not provided any evidence. We are confident that there is out in their favour as the main creditors. This is the first major pub-

As a result, the four banks

were unable to take control of

Canary Wharf when O&Y col

ess parmers.

busin

tamær/Gerlind

subsidiary of

2.8%

Lloyd's

syndicate 4.6%

AIG/AIU

US

6%

Belgian Co. now

German Gerling

Coface

French 2.5%

nothing to worry about." Clifford Chance is challenglic negligence case against the legal profession, but follows ing the jurisdiction of the Ca-nadian courts, arguing that any case should be heard in the trend of actions against accountancy firms. A series of cases has been brought against auditors accused of negligence in audits of ac-quired companies and others such as BCCI which have opinent. Royal Bank of Can-ada. CIBC. Bank of Nova reach court, but several this year.

gation and accepted that price rises last month, raistechnical errors had ocing hopes among newspaper curred". But he said it was up owners that raw material costs have peaked after into the Canadian banks to creases of around 70 per cent in the past 18 months.

The price of newsprint is said to have risen by 10 per cent a tonne in January against the 12 to 13 per cent increase that suppliers had been hoping for. Analysts such as Katherine Pelly of SBC Warburg say it is now questionable whether the suppliers will be able to force

through another 2 to 3 per cent increment in the middle

for larger Saturday editions. The Sun will impose a 2p weekend price differential for the first time tomorrow.

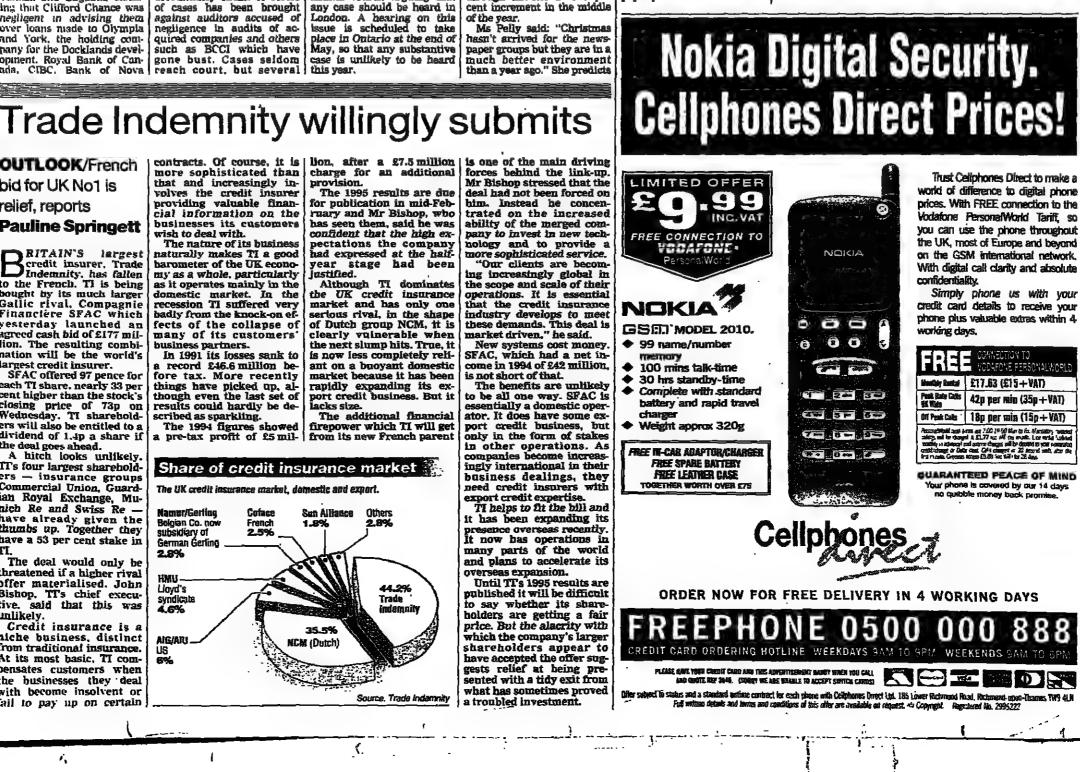
Ms Pelly argues that larger newspapers could also improve advertising revenues. Recent newsprint shortage saw some papers turning

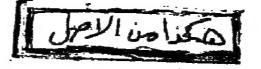
away advertising. Newsprint accounts for some 20 per cent of a news paper's costs and the price rises since late 1994 savaged Fleet Street profits and encouraged a truce in the news paper price war.

Misys reports £19.2m profits

COMPUTER software company Misys yesterday unveiled a 71 per cent rise in half-year profits to \$19.2 million. Chairman Kevin. omax said that the company's order book was improving and that the board was increasingly confident of a satisfactory out-come for the year. Misys was now "well positioned to expand further internationally and to benefit from the process of consolidation worldwide withing the apllication software products índustry.

Misys recently bought the ACT group. Analysts said the results indicated the two companies were intergrating well and that the former ACT businesses were contributing positively. The City had feared that Misys would suffer because of the size of the provisions it had been required to make as a result of the purchase. - Pauline Springett







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Cricket **World Cup safety** spotlight switches to Pakistan

Kathy Evans, and Suzanne Goldenberg in New Delhi

S WORLD CUP orga-nisers promised a full review of the se-Sri Lanka after Wednesday's Sri Lanka after Wednesday's suicide bombing in Colombo, new fears were raised about the reception that may await England when they fly to Pakistan tomorrow to begin their preparations for the tournament tournam

In Islamabad the fundamen-In Islamadad the fundamen-talist Jamaat Islami party warned yesterday that the sight of players eating or drinking on the field during the current fasting month of Ramadan might infuriate de-vout Muslims. Pakistani law punishes violation of the punishes violation of the stadium. dawn-to-dusk fast with a max-Some cricket commentatory

imum three-month jail term. A party spokesman hoped matches would be resched-uled: if not, players should eat with discretion. Pakistan Cricket Board offi-

cials have announced special precautions in Karachi, where England play Pakistan in March 3. The southern city - which will host two other matches — is currently expe-riencing the worst period of violence since independence. Last year some 1,300 people

KENT are hoping that their West Indies bats-

man Carl Hooper will be fit for the start of the season

after being laid low by a mystery illness. Hooper is resting after

pulling out of the World Cup

Kent pin hopes on Hooper return

and the county's secretary Zimbabwe. At the end of Stnart Anderson said: "He is day two, England were 335 feeling weary after a long for five, a lead of 192.

spell of intense cricket and needs a complete break." In the third and final Under-19 Test in Bulawayo,

maiden centuries from Noel Gie (118) and Owais Shah

(114 not out) put England in

the driving seat against Zimbabwe. At the end of

died in clashes between para-military forces and Mohajir Quaimi Party (MQM) mili-group in the city. This year there has been no let-up in the violence. However, govern-ment officials stress that the situation in Pakistan has

In India, cricket board offi-cials said they were making special arrangements for the safety of the Australia and Pakistan teams at the inaugusituation in Pakistan has nothing in common with Sri Lanka's. "There have been no mass

situation in Pakistan has nothing in common with Sri Lanka's. "There have been no mass killings in Karachi like Wednesday's bomb in Co-lombo, only isolated encoun-ters and shoot-outs," said one government official Even so, cricket board offi-cials said that spectators at the matches would undergo strict screening and body

strict screening and body Streak. "Hopefully security searches and would be will be good. We don't see it banned from carrying food, as a major problem; we're not drink or radios into the going to get too concerned going to get too concerned about it. You could get run over by a bus in the street; it's just one of those things." in the city said there were growing fears that ethnic groups might be tempted to Streak said that none of the team was concerned about the possible dangers, a view sharply at odds with the view

groups might be tempted to take maximum advantage of the international publicity the tournament could give to the conflict in Karachi. Others believe that the World Cup may actually provide the city with a breathing space from the violence. from Australia, whose play-ers are reluctant to travel to ers are reluciant to travel to the island and will decide next week whether to forfeli their opening match there. David Richards, the chief executive of the International Cricket Council, conceded yesterday that the explosion was "obviously a matter of concern", adding that he had spoken to officials from the "The frenzy of cricket over comes everything. We are hoping it could bring the beginnings of peace to the city,

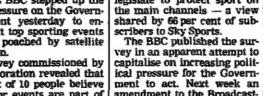
BBC steps up pressure to protect events spoken to officials from the Andrew Culf tournament's organising com-mittee and "an assessment of

Media Correspo the position will be carried out over the next two to three

HE BBC stepped up the ment yesterday to en-sure that top sporting events are not posched by satellite days". • Leicestershire, due to visit Sri Lanks on a pre-season tour next month, are review-ing the situation "on a daily television.

A survey commissioned by the corporation revealed that nine out of 10 people believe basis", and two New Zealand rugby teams, Otago and Auck-land, yesterday called off two exhibition matches in island next week. the

Sport and Television



the major events are part of amendment to the Broadcast-the nation's heritage and ing Bill, tabled by a cross-

should be available for every-one to see live on mainstream including Lord Howell, the 1,238 people, showed that \$2 television. Seventy per cent former sports minister, and per cent wanted live coverage one to see live on mainstream former sports minister. and Lord Weatherill, former television. Seventy per cent said the Government should rather than highlights: 82 per Conservative Speaker in the Commons, will be debated at Westminster. cent said coverage of top legislate to protect sport on events was an important pubic service.

give his superbike "Syko" a top speed of 270 mph. The British record stands at 200.9 mph; Dave Campos's world record is 322.15 mph

It would extend the protec-tion of the eight "listed events" — including the Olympics, World Cup and Wimbledon — and prevent subscription believe major them being shown exclusively on subscription and pay-per-view channels. sion and should be universally available as a public service."

to see live on TV

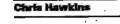
'Olympic Games World Cup loolball 74 3 Commonwealth Games "FA Cup/Scollish Cup 73 Will Wyatt, managing direc-tor of BBC TV, soid: "Even those who pay extra for sport 5 'Winter Olympics 5 'Wimbledon World Athletics 8 World Snogker events have their natural 9 'Grand National home on mainstream televi-10 Premiership lootball Listo Souce SUSB

Racing

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Maguire set fair for quick return at Sandown

Derrymoyle Cheltenham bound after easy win at Punchestown



This is not to say, however, that his enthusiasm is on the wane and he hopes to be back His keepness can only be His keep

Derrymoyle gained a well deserved win when justifying favouritism in the Back See Hundle of Bar

SPORTS NEWS 13



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	NE of the great ironies, not to say injustices, of jump racing would be if Adrian Maguire were to be denied the satisfaction of ever becoming champion jockey. This inspirational rider had 194 winners last season but failed by five to beat Richard Dunwoody, after breaking his arm at a crucial time, having finished third with 120 win- ners the season before. Already his title hopes this season are forlorn as injuries and his reluctance to ride during the summer mean that he trails the meteoric Tony McCoy by 57.	An intervent of bad falls in the last few months and one hopes it is just bad luck and nothing to do with desperation. It would be sad to see him fail to fulfil what at one time seemed his inevitable destiny. All the plum rides at Leo- pardstown on Sunday have gone and, although his agent Dave Roberts has been trying to pull the proverblal rabbit the valuable Hennessy Gold Cup. Despite a strong home chal- lenge in the shape of Imperial	Beaumont. Conversely, it cannot be too soft for Master Oats, a real mudlark, although something of a question mark still hangs over the current champion whose third to One Man at Sandown was a below par effort. One Man is a star, of simply could not live with him last season. At Southwell today, course and distance winner Seeking Destiny (2.00) is napped in the Halham Handicap after	the Red Bog Hurdle at Pun- chestown yesterday. Trained by Michael Cun- ningham for Merry Gale's owner Herb Stanley. he quickened nicely on the run-in and was always bolding Balawhar, his only serions market rival, by a length and a half, with the long absent Tiananmen Square just a lengtb behind the runner-up in third. "He is no mean per- former, bat we won't be making up our minds be- tween the Champion Hur- dle and the Stayers' Hurdle at Cheltenham until he
	Second S	3.10 N.L.L.A. GOODSTINE HARDORAP WHELK Sun H1110pde CL411 1 27:5-31 FORMALER (F1) (D) 4 Pop 4-11-8 2 301 YURRALER (F1) (D) 4 Pop 4-11-8 2 97:5-31 FORMALER (F1) (D) 4 Pop 4-11-8 2 97:5-32 FORMALER (F1) (D) 4 Pop 4-11-8 2 97:5-32 FORMALER (F1) (D) 4 Pop 4-11-8 3 97:5-32 FORMALER (F1) (F1) (D) A Pop 10-11-9 4 97:5-32 FORMALER (F1) (F1) (D) A Pop 10-11-9 5 07:5-32 FORMALER (F1) (F1) (D) A Pop 10-11-9 5 07:5-32 FORMALER (F1) (F1) (D) A Pop 10-11-9 5 07:5-32 FORMALER (F1) (F1) (D) A Pop 10-11-9 7 07:5-32 FORMALER (F1) (F1) (D) A Pop 10-11-9 7 07:5-32 FORMALER (F1) (D) Pop 10-11-11-11 7 07:5-32 FORMALER (F1) (D) Pop 10-11-11 7 07:5-32 FORMALER (F1) (D) Pop 10-11-11	Southwell all-weather from a second and the second	 3.30 OLD CLIPSTONE ALECTION MANDEN STAKES IND is 37 CLIPS Yenney Z. Color Mandel ALECTION MANDEN STAKES IND is 37 CLIPS Yenney Z. Color Mandel ALECTION FAMILIES (State Color Alection of the Color Alectio
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14 SPORTS NEWS

Soccer

Asprilla deal is still alive

Ian Ross and Don Beet

HE flood of foreign players into English football, which spread

yesterday when West Ham signed Dani da Cruz Carvalho from Sporting Lis-bon, may still see Faustino Asprilla join Newcastle United.

Yesterday, 24 hours after the Colombian international's proposed £6.7 million move from Parma had seemingly collapsed, the deal was said to be alive if not kicking.

In an effort to prove he has fully recovered from the knee injury which threatens to scupper the transfer. Asprilla is willing to have a second

medical examination. Newcastle's manager Kevin Keegan, having persuaded some of his board of directors some of his board of directors that they should still sign the gifted striker, declined to comment yesterday on the ap-parent split in the boardroom. It's got absolutely bothing to do with me any more." he said. "There is nothing I can say. It is between the chair-man and the board. I just can't comment.

The chairman Sir John Hall confirmed that the deal was still in his pending tray. "At this stage the board is handling it as they do all trans-fers," he said. "We are trying to get matters resolved to our satisfaction.

Parma have threatened legal action if Asprilla's transfer is not swiftly con-firmed. "The contract is valid in all respects," said a spokes-man, Giorgio Gandolfi. "Uefa dictates that once a club signs to tie him to the a contract they take the risk summer of 1999.

of the medical. If they are doubtful — and there is no reason to be — Newcastle should have arranged a medical before they signed a contract

West Ham's capture of Dani on loan until the end of the season was far more straightforward. Their managing di-rector Peter Storrie agreed terms yesterday with Sport-ing's president Santana Lopes and enthused: "We are de lighted to sign someone that Sporting's manager Bobby Robson describes as one of the best young players in Europe. At 19, we are sure he will be an exciting talent for

the East End public." He may get the chance to excite Upton Park tomorrow with West Ham's manager Harry Redknapp saying yes-terday that Dani would be in the squad for the home Pre-

miership match against Not-tingham Forest. Redknapp, who welcomed Dani to training while Storrie concluded negotiations with Sporting, said: "He has a lovely left foot, can beat people and do things with the ball. He was keen to come and was not difficult to deal with." On the other side of London

another manager, Ray Will kins of Queens Park Rangers was delighted when the winger Andy Impey signed a new 2%-year contract that will keep him at the club until 1998. Wilkins said: "Andy is a player of immense talent and

is very important to us." Also staying put is Charl-ton's manager Alan Curbish ley, who has agreed a two year extension to his contract to tie him to the club until the

Yes Serb, that's my hables . . . David Pleat brought Stefanovic, left, and Kovacevic to Sheffield Wednesday for \$2.5 million each

Ferguson wins appeal over ban

UNCAN FERGUSON | club's chairman Peter will not have to serve | Johnson said: 'With regard to the judicial review and the judgment delivered this the remaining seven games of a 12-match suspension after winning his morning, I and all concerned are pleased with the outcome. After such a appeal against the sentence, writes Ian Ross,

After a judicial review of long period of time I sinthe Everton striker's case, cerely hope that this will Lord Macfadyen ruled that be the end of the matter and the Scottish Football Association's disciplinary committee had acted beyoud its powers in impos-

ing the punishment. The decision challenges terday's ruling it is thought

as such the club wishes to make no further comment. Although the SFA could

talent," says David Pleat, who has two Serbs at Sheffield Wednesday. "Some great playunlikely to do so, bearing

The 23-year-old midfielder, he has scored only nine goals a silky, skilful, pleasing-on-the-eye player, arrived at Bol-those coming in two games in 27 appearances, five of those coming in two games against Coventry. "He has found it difficult to get into

positions that will score him a lot of goals, but he is learn-ing that," says Little. Off the pitch, Milosevic ap-pears to have found the tran-Belgrade pre-season and we had the tape sent to us. We sent our chief scout lan McNeill over to watch him and

school with are dead," he says.

English players. With the help of his friend Raddy Antic, the former Yugoslav international who played for "It's been awful. They need a shoulder all the time. It's so time-consuming trying to be nice, trying to look after them. Both are very young and beither of them spoke a him at Luton and is now man-ager of the Spanish league leaders Atletico Madrid, he word of English. "Darko is 21, and had a was able to follow up two

heavily pregnant wife when be arrived, and was asked to play against Charlton the day, after the baby was born. I should have realised he eads "Mick Mills, our chief scout, the former England captain, went out to Yugosla-via to see them. The player he had gone to see did wall, but another player impressed him too. We got a price for hoth of them " would have been emotionally drained and up all night."

both of them." The deal was quickly became so depressed that his parents talked of him going home when Wednesday could settled, with the players visit-

The Guardian Friday February 2 1996

Uefa to hear clubs' ideas

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Mar Fren & Family 19

Martin Thorpe on ground-breaking talks in Geneva

UDGING by some recent stories one could be for-given for thinking that the leading European clubs' meeting with Uefa next Wednesday is about to change the footballing landscape beyand all recognition. Alas, the Geneva get-together is un-likely to produce anything so

"Basically it's a talking shop," says the Manchester United director Maurice Watkins, who will represent the club. "It's a chance to listen and talk. That's all."

However, it is epoch-mak-ing in another, perhaps more crucial way: this is the first time all Europe's leading clubs have been allowed to talk directly to the governing body rather than through their national associations.

tion to send three clubs each tion to send three clubs each to the meeting. United being joined by Arsenal and Liver-pool as the English clubs with the most European experi-ence over the past 10 years. They do not have a joint stance or defined agenda "up-less it gets talked about on the plane over " says Watking.

ideas, such as winter breaks expanding the Uefa Cup, rede tigning the Champions' League and much more. How-ever, "the meeting is not a de-cision-making forum," con-firmed the Premier League spokesman Mike Lee, "though any points from it will be reported back to our clubs. Wednesday's meeting is a useful development in creating a direct dialogue be-tween Uefa and the profes-sional esme".

sional game". In other words, Uefa has ac knowledged that the big clubs' muscle has to be taken increasingly seriously. In deed it is understood that Wednesday's meeting was called only after the clubs

planned one of their own. Basically Europe's leading clubs want a direct input into Uefa's decision-making pro-cess. There is concern that Uefa's role has grown beyond the mere organiser of cup competitions to something more dictatorial, with powers it is even now attempting to

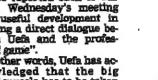
ASA CURCIC is play-ing beautifully and Scoring goals. The Serb, who came to Bolton Wanderers from Partiton, as do most of the current imports from the former Yuzan Belgrade for £1.5 million early in the season, has been a dream signing for the man-ager Colin Todd. "The Yugoslavs have always from an agent.

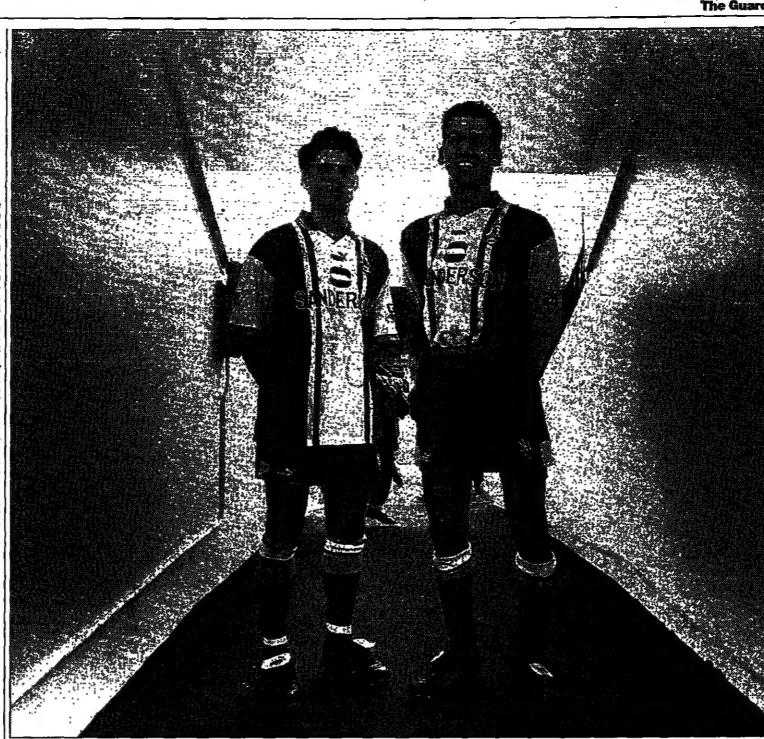
been great exporters of football

Curcic stars in Serbia's tale of tape The former Yugoslavia is providing rich pickings for Premiership clubs -- often via video cassettes. Cynthia Bateman reports

goslavia, by way of a video "He came to our attention almost by chance," says Todd. "Aston Villa played Partizan And that could spark the big-gest change of all. Uefa has invited the top 12 leagues within their jurisdic-

plane over." says Watkins. But they, along with the other 33 clubs, will table their





the SFA's practice of acting on a supervisor's report when a referee has failed to Scotland's coach, take action against a player anxious that Ferguson during a match. Now the association may be forced turbed run-up to this to redraft its procedures and have them passed by a meeting of the full council.

Ferguson's sentence was handed down more than 18 months ago after he head- nitely in my thoughts," butted John McStay of said Brown. "There has ob-Raith Rovers while playing for Rangers. Ferguson was subsequently convicted of assaulting McStay and late doubting his ability." last year he served half of a • Kevin Pilkington, the three-month sentence in Barlinnie jail, Glasgow. Everton sought a judicial No. 3 at Old Trafford after

Everton sought a judicial No. 3 at Old Trafford after review of the case on the ground that if Ferguson has joined Rochdale on a were to serve his fall suspension from football he would have been punished twice for the same offence.

"After all this time it is good to get this behind us," good to get this behind us," Marcus Stewart, who has sald Everton's manager Joe Royle. "I am absolutely de-lighted for Duncan." The club.

in mind that Craig Brown. 15 should enjoy an undissummer's European Championship finais. "If Duncan maintains his abroad Curcic is just one of a grow-ing number of Serbian imgood form and keeps behaving himself he is very defiports from the former Yugo-

slavia who are as good if not better than the domestic product. More pertinently, in a spiralling transfer market, they are a good sight cheaper. Of current Yugoslavia equad members playing in England, the Bolton player is the only one who was an in-ternational before the country was divided and submonth's loan

jected to an embargo that reduced the side to playing Birmingham's manager Barry Fry has renewed his £1 million bid for the only friendlies. He speaks survival English, and appears to have had little difficulty switching cultures. Bristol Rovers striker "I am just so pleased to be here," he says. "A lot of young

ers have come out of Yi he came back with a favourable report, and we took it via. They have always been from there. We did the negotiafootball mercenaries. tions with the help of a Yugo-slav based in London, and they "Under the old regime,

players weren't allowed to leave until they were 28. Now there is a whole new generawere pretty straightforward." Curcic is one of four tion of players who want to go recently arrived Serbs among 61 foreigners in the Premier-

ahip, which has 750 registered players. "Premier League club managers are inundated with tapes and faxes touting players," says Todd. "But you have to make sure you do your homework."

Villa's Savo Milosevic was another sold by video, signed unseen by Brian Little for £3.5 million in July, also from Partizan, but recommended to the Villa chairman Doug Ellis by Terry Venables. Unlike Curcic, Milosevic

has struggled to live up to the billing. Villa's high profile as one of the in-form sides has put the spotlight on the 22-year-old striker and exposed some glaring misses. Little's insistence that Milo-

players in my country wanted to play in big matches but couldn't because of the sancsevic, who scored 25 goals a season with Partizan and promised the same here, will tions. But I am grateful and hopoured that Bolton are giv-ing me the opportunity to play in such a premier division." come good appeared to be underlined by an improved performance against Liver-pool on Wednesday. But so far

Ice Hockey

Snooker

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Curcie Bolton bargain

helped to settle in by the Villa goalkeeper Mark Bosnich, a ing England for only 36 hours. But that is when Pleat's trou-Croat-born Australian bles began. But the war has left its scar. "Some of the children I went to

"It isn't just a matter of showing they are internation als and proving you can't get a player of similar quality for the price here," he says. "You "If it wasn't for football I would probably be dead too." Pleat looked to Yugoslavia have to prove to the DoE that you have tried, and they won't take your word for it. You have to produce evibecause he could not afford

dence, and some chairmen are not too keen on producing

letters like that." Pleat believes that his for-ward Darko Kovacevic and ably not eating properly. "Then one has his mother defender Dejan Stefanovic, bought from Red Star Belstaying with him and there's a horrible smell of smoke. grade for £2.5 million each, And when the baby cried in the night, the interpreter had to be called out because they will increase their value and that the striker "will be a £5 thought the baby should go to the hospital and they don't know who to ask for help. million player by the end of the seas

But there have been diffi-culties. They find the game here "more frenetic, faster, fiercer", he says, and he has lectured both on discipline and the need to avoid "play-acting and retaliation".

And problems off the pitch? "Too numerous to mention," he sighs wearily. He took two players because he thought "one on his own couldn't cope". But in doing so he doubled his troubles.

not find him accommodation. extend through ute changes. The clubs are worried and He now has a flat, and both players have had English les-

Dejan is 20 and single, and

them to come here, a crazy

adventure really."

Baseball

Basketball

players have had knglish les-sons, and driving lessons. "They got their cars this week," says Pleat. "But they can't read, and they can't tell you what they want to. We played them in the reserves just to stop the boredom. "But you worry about them You ar mund to see Wednesday's meeting could be a defining moment. Either Uefa shows itself to be serious in wanting to embrace the clubs in decision-making and agrees, for instance, to ar-

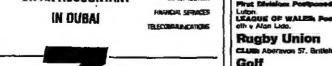
range regular meetings with clubs or the get-together is being used by Uefa merely to them. You go round to see them and you see a pile of empty McDonald's cartons keep the clubs sweet before issuing more diktats and marginalising them as ever. This latter course would nd you realise they are prob-

undoubtedly lead to conflict between the clubs and Uefa. "One of the topics on the meeting's agenda will be Uefa's responsibilities," says Watkins. "There is a feeling that they should be limited." Any threats of a breakaway to form a rebal European "But you have to remember it has been a massive step for

superleague are unlikely, however. "The Premier League is the best in Europe and I can't imagine any club wanting to walk away from that."

Asked if he would repeat the exercise, the pause before the reply says it all. "English players take their money, play the game and go home." Pleat says. More goals from Darko against Newcastle at St Whatever happens, Watkins and the Premier League are pushing ahead with their forum of top clubs within the EC where, he says, "there is a need for an effective profes-James' Park tomorrow will cheer him up no end. sional voice".

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Normal STD Rates & Prestel Parameters apply

Iander (Swaz): N Gandy; T Dodds (Na-nibia); B Vaughan (US), 49 R Salter (Aut); S Ford (US), M Murtees: C Williams (GB); L James (GB); M Nommu: D Terbianche; M Cintatie (US); B Papesa: V Phillips (GB). Fixtures (7.30 unless stated Soccer Tennis repairy Postponed Trovbridge To St. buy Tn more Mon. Feb 5, 730, PONTINE LEAGUE, First Division Noth. Forest 1, Oldann C Postpone Wost Bron v Liverpool Second Brailer BABUE OF IRELAND: Pressier Dh sloer Shelbourns v Derry C (7.45). CHOATTA INDOOR MILITS TOURNA-MEDT Coprets Second rounds C Pic-iline (Fr) Is J Van Herck (Bai) 5-3, 6-3, C-3 Bauk (Ger) Is M Danner IC2) 3-8, 6-4, 7-8, G Forget (Fr) Ist T Kortpara (Moin) 7-6, 6-4, 6-1; B Gealtow (Gro) Ist Janchez (Sp) 7-8, 6-4, 6 Houndervio (Groß Janchez Sinner (Gro 16-4, 6-4, 4 Veisae (Hon) Ist Sinner (Groß 6-4, 6-4, 4 Veisae (Hon) Ist Sinner (Groß 16) 5-3, 7-8. SielaNQUAL GERE: Second rounds Island J Tarawge (US) Ist D Saptiord (GS) 5-7, 0-0, 6-3; B Tebuset (Aux) Ist A Cherksnor CROATLA INGOOR MILITS TO **Rugby Union** G 2. Blackpool 5. AVON INSURANCE CONBINATION First Division Posts A UNTERNATIONALS Scotland V France (230, Myreside, Edinburgh). U-21 INTERNATIONALS Scotland J'Imrange (US) bi D Sapsiord (GB) 5-7, 9-0, 6-5; III Tehbuds (Aut) bi A Cherkanov (Rus) 7-6, 6-4; III Cherkanice (SA) bi L Jornson (Swe) 6-3, 6-4; III Annael bi T Ho (US) 7-5, 6-7, 6-4, Geamravon 57. British Glees 0. Golf HENEKKN CLASSIC (Perin): First reserved (Aus unisen stated), 66 W Smith; G Tatmer (V2). e7 A Gabgen (Cani, e8) M Davis (Engl; G Evano (Engl; A Hanlar (Scot). 69 S Laycock: D Hitt M Liteon (Wales): A Pamping; C Jonae: J Lomas (Engl; E Mizupoth Klapan): P McGhaley Irea, B Hughest, I Wooarnan (Wales); F Mo-brie (N2), S Bottoming (Engl; D Fardon, 70 A Stephans; A Sherbarna (Engl; D Fardon, 70 A Stephans; A Sherbarna (Engl; D Smith (K2), S Bottoming (Engl; D Smith (K2), S Bottoming (Engl; D Smith (K2), S Bottoming (Engl; S Cover (K2), S Googen B Ogle; S Archartform (Engl; S Tat.; C Denna (US), A Stoitz; D Cohe Sover (K2), R Bostill (Engl; S Amas (Trin) A Parner: P O'Laber; R Graen; D Robert-sen (Scot) L Washer, T M Roberts; J Semor, J Tommand (US), A Stoitz; D Cohe E Droop: K Valentine; J Daly (US); R Willes (Norx: D B-ansdon: S Leanny; P Haugerud (Norx: D B-ansdon: S Leanny; P Haugerud (K1), 73 S Webster (Engl; B Conter; S Ort); P Eales (Engl; R Charts (Engl; J Rayne (K1), 73 S Webster (Engl; A Cohart (Scot); P Eales (Engl; R Charts (Engl; J Rayne (K1), 73 S Webster (Engl; C A Cohart (Scot); P Eales (Engl; R Charts (Engl; J Rayne (K1), 73 S Webster (Engl; A Cohart (Scot); P Bagadhurs) (Engl; N McLean (Engl; B Jach son (Engl; P Alleck, Wales; S Cage (Engl), R Ratery (N), 75 R Claycton (Engl; B Jach son (Engl; T R A Kosset) (Engl; B Jach son (Engl; T R A Claycton (Engl; B) States (Engl; T Charts (Engl; J), R States (Engl; T Charts (Engl; J), R Boaston (Engl; T R K Clans (Engl; B) States (Engl; T R K K), R K) Boaston (Engl; T R K), R K) States (T R McCann (US); W Bradley; L'Zan, H Baogeth, M Archer (GB); F Frido hames) bt Regional Looput West Glasgow arr v Kilmarnock, South Peeb Her-Hinder T Handminn (GB) bit M Pettbory (GB) 6-1, 7-6: A Gibbonaldy (Rus) bit C Caratti (ID 6-5, 6-4. PAM FACIFIC OPPEN WOMENTS IN-INCOME TOURNAMENT (Tolyco): Second remark B Mangle (Switz) bit A Daphysma (Japata) 6-0, 6-2: II Seles (US) bit (Spirion (Form) 6-0, 6-2: L Devenport (US) bit (Spirion Raymond (US) 6-1, 6-2: II Manglet (US) bit (Spirion Bothuiz-MeCarity (Neth) 7-6, 7-5; A Ser-aber Womrio (Rg) with N Brackles (Land); B Halawyon (Bul) bit G Fernandez (US) 4-6. T Hannan 7-8: A Obe Selbirk. CLUB RATCHES Abartillery v Blame (7.0): Askens v Park Hotas; Bedford v Samoore (8.0): Berry Hill v Strond (7.0): Bufft Weise Llandover (7.0): Cambridge Univ v Sale (7.15): Cross Keys v Trodaga Univ v Sale (7.15): Linsherun v Pyte (7.0): Gloucester v Parkypol (7.0): Lelcas ser v Coventry (7.15): Linsherun v Pyte (7.0): Loodon Iriah v South Walke Police. Lydney v Moseley (7.0): Pontypridd v Bris ol (7.0): Roberond v Met Police. Shour-(7.0): London Irteli v South Wales Polloc: Lydney v Moseley (7.0): Pontypride v Bra-bridge v Notingkam; Swansa v Beth (7.0): Theoroisy o Chettenham (7.0): Wanne v Bridgend; Gala v Kette (7.15): Jod-For-get v Melrose (7.15): Langhoim v Hawick (7.0): Revorar v Oskatel (7.0): Genrotnes v Kritcaldy (7.0): Musselburgh v Duntarm-tion (7.0): 6-2 6-4. Basketball

NEA: Adamta 54, Phoenix 120; Boston 131, Vancouver 95; Cleveland 81, Mitwaukae 71; Pertjend 94, Utah 96; San Antonis 115, LA Clippers 108. EUROPEAN CHAMPORE CUP: 5 final series: Group A: CSKA Mosco A.D. 90

Senetion Traviso 70, Lilkerspor 82, Bayér Laverinsen 88, Group B: Real Hadrid 78, Pas Gribez 64. **Rugby League** BARLA YOUTH YOUR MAYOK BARLA President's XI + France (Leigh). ALLIANCE CHALLENCE CUP- First round Batley + Oldham; Hull KR + Wigan.

NML: Buttalo 6, Florida 1; Montreal 5 Washington 3; Otlaves 1, Boeton 3; Tampa Bar 4, Pitcheurgh 1; Toronto D, 93 Deltas 1, NY Rangars 1 (OT); Edmonton 0 Chicago 4; Anahetin 2; Colonado 1; Los Angués 4; Antréord 8; Hockey

AEWHA HIDOOR CHAMPIONSINPS (1.6. Crystal Paleta): Under 18: Group As Goopte, Cobert, Paletay RC Wakefield GH, Hany Cort, Budetaven, Group B Tatkridge G3. The Cinaes, Calibrate RQ. WELSH OPEN (Novport): Counter-Sublic D Elaroid (Eng) to D Norput (Wates) 5-2.

Sport in brief ********************* Golf Ian Woosnam's revival con tinued yesterday with a fine start to the Heineken Classic

in Perth, where the Welshman esgled the last for a three-under-par 69. Australia's Wayne Smith

and New Zealand's Greg Turner mastered the heat and a swirling wind to set the pace with 66s, with the Englishmen Mark Davis and Gary Evans and Scotland's Adam Hunter all carding 68s.

Joe Bugner, back in the ring at 45, may fight in Britain. The BBBC secretary John Morris is opposed to licensing Australia's former British and European heavyweight champion but will put the request to his board. The trainer Peter McEll-hiney, who collapsed at ring-side during Derek Wormald's

attempt to win the European middleweight title in Birningham on Wednesday, has

Lucozade has extended it lished because the San Jose sponsorship deal with the BAF, signing a new three-year contract worth around tournament has been moved back to accommodate Davis Cup matches over the week-end of February 9 to 11. 21 million

EC still begs to differ Kan Griffay jnr, the Seattle Mariners' centre fielder, has

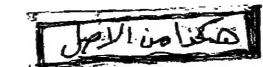
become the game's highest-paid player after agreeing to a four-year \$34-million (£22.5 Julie Wolf in Brussels

THE European Commis-sion claimed last night million) contract extension. that, although Uefa had be-Gene Waldron, the Leicester Riders' all-time leading scorer, come more flexible over transfer fees after the Bosman ruling, the two sides are still far apart on the rule allowing clubs to field has rejoined the club. The 34year-old guard replaces Chris Temming, who has been trou-bled by a knee injury. John Tresvant, the Ameri-

three foreign and two as-similated players. Karel Van Miert, the European Union's competitions commissioner, stressed that national transfer fees are indirectly affected by the Bosman ruling and any new system de-vised by Uefa would have to cover transfers within Europe and within individ-

doubt that the EC intends to enforce the Bosman court judgment, ruling ille-gal restrictions on foreign the ATP rankings are based Agassi will lose the 204 points he picked up for winning in San Jose last February and players and their transfer fees, and is prepared to impost fines if European clubs do not fall into line in has no chance to replace them before the rankings are pubthe next four weeks.

Van Miert rejected sug-gestions that the "three plus two" rule be allowed to stay until the end of the season.



U-21 INTERNATIONALS SCOLDAG France (L), Myranice, Edinburgh). TOUR MATCH: Leinster v New South Welse (J.S. Laustowne Rosc). REPRESENTATIVE MATCHES England Hory V Males Univ(23), Richmand RFC): England Students v Wales Students (J.A. Rossing Park RFC). SEU TENNENTS CHAMPIONSNIP SEU TENNENTS CHAMPIONSNIP Regional Leaguest West Glasgow Stud-

Boxing

died of a heart attack.

Athletics

the club as an assistant coach. He is likely to return to the playing staff next season, when he will have qualified as English. Tennis Andre Agassi will lose his world No.1 spot to Thomas Muster on Monday week. As

can forward displaced from the Manchester Giants' team when they signed Thomas El-liott this week, will remain at

ual countries. Van Miert left Uefa in no

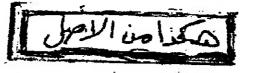
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leeds' loss in.

is Lowes dec

The state of





Drugs and Sport

Peter Nichols reports on the promising teenager who faces a four-year ban amid concern at the rising use of 'social' drugs

Weightlifter positive for ecstasy

Year-old weightlifter from Didcot, has be-come the first junior athlete in Britain to test positive for ecstasy.

Thomas was tested after winning the under-59kg cate gory at the South Midlands Divisional Championships at Aylesbury on November 12. The A sample showed traces The A sample showed traces of methylene dioxymethyl-amphetamine (ecstasy) and Thomas has admitted taking the drug eight posi-tives were recorded during 1995. But whereas the perforthe drug.

Only two competitors in British mainstream sport have previously tested posi-tive for ecstasy, namely the tive for ecstasy, namely the An amphetamine-based ice hockey players Mark Pal- drug, ecstasy increases mus-

Rugby Union

D.

EAN THOMAS, a 17- | lister and Richard Tomalin in | cular activity and that could year-old weightlifter | November 1994. Though both | be useful in sport. According served a 10-month suspension, the British Ice Hockey Association did not release details of the drug taken.

Thomas's case highlights growing concern about recreational drugs showing up in tests. Cannabis use has been prevalent, and in football mance-enhancing qualities of cannabis are dubious in the

in that process can clog up the kidneys. Cannabis causes some harm — mostly social majority of sports, ecstasy is different.

be deadly.

Thomas denies that he used | be useful in sport. According to Dr Robin Ferner, who runs the drug to improve perfor-mance, and readily admits the West Midlands Centre for that he had become over-de-Adverse Drug Reaction pendent on the drug for social Reporting, it is that very ef-fect which is dangerous. outings.

"I started off by taking just one a night," he explained, "but as you get used to it you "The extra muscular activity that ecstasy provokes is the reason why the fatalities occur," said Ferner. "Comneed to take more. I took five the Thursday before the competition, which is why I supbined with high ambient pose they stayed in my body. "They didn't help, though. I emperature and dehydration it can lead to muscle did crap in the competition. I had to start off at a lower weight than I normally did and I was just knackered." breakdown The release of chemicals

Weightlifting's drug-testing programme, administered by the Sports Council, naturally but the effects of ecstasy can

does not concern itself with | B sample confirms the the question of motivation. As positive. A former pupil of St Birinus Michelle Verroken, head of the council's doping control

School in Didcot, he contin-ued to train with its weightunit, stated: "We can't determine from the test prolifting club after he left schoo gramme why people are found in July 1994. The club has enjoyed some success with its lifters, two of whom currently to have taken a drug." But she added: "We are obcompete at national school boy level, and in December 1 viously aware of a growing incidence of drug use which was awarded a £33,000 may have a 'social' origin. However, our figures suggest that the incidence in sport is National Lottery grant. St Birinus, though, has now still lower than that for the population in general." effected a permanent ban on

Thomas's membership. Which begs a question for sport: the complex issue of whether ex-Thomas, who has since had counselling and stopped clusion or rehabilitation is using the drug, faces a possible four-year suspension the best way to treat such offenders. from weightlifting if the



Extra time Edited by Jeremy Alexander Cherished colours hit the saddle

Racing lost £15 mil-lion last Saturday. But with prescience, of a new and old at £1,000.

perhaps, and ingenuity it has found a way of recoup-ing flakes in the drift and brightening the bleak sea-son. It has initiated "cherished" colours, borrowing the notion and a mail-shot service from the number-plate game. The first postalbid auction, in November, raised £60,000. The next closes on February 20. The wheeze came from Weatherbys and the British Horseracing Board, For more than 20 years 18 colours and 27 designs have been permitted in Britain, though some older colours survive from earlier, provided they have been renewed annually. New owners may still acquire available colours from this range for a £23 annual registration; 2,000 do so per year out of some 16,000 overall. Now seven new colours are on controlled release exclusively by auction: aquamarine, cerise, gold, khaki (for the military interest). lime green, silver and terracotta. The singlecolour gold carries a reserve of £10,000; the four combinations of two new

of a new and old at £1,000. All proceeds go to the BHB's Racing Administra-tion Fund. It benefits everyone in racing, Weatherbys say; without it the £60,000 would have had to be levied otherwise. This time two of the 20 lots are of old colours submitted by current registrants. White with a red disc, reserved at £4,000, is expected to at-tract the growing Japanese interest. For these two lots 80 per cent goes to the ven-B0 per cent goes to the ven-dor. Unsold colours go into a follow-up auction. The first produced 40 bids at the first stage, 70 eventu-ally. Seven sets were sold at the second stage. All went bar gold and lime green. Weatherbys' blame their catalogue example, which showed spots a billous com-

showed spots, a bilious con-coction. The size of successful bids is andisclosed but the 19 carried a total reserve of £31,000. That suggests they are going for almost double the asking minimum. Two-colour com binations will come up only twice more. Graphite and tangerine is not available. Chelsea have got that for their travels - anopposed.

Spain column

"HE two British weightlifters sent home from Barcelona before competing in the 1992 Olympics have spent the Olympiad as com-petitors should: working to get their own back on those who beat them. Andrew Saxton and Andrew Davies per-ceive this to be Dr David Cowan, whose King's College laboratory did the test which did for them. They have no grievance with the British Amateur Weight Lifters' Association or the Sports

flanker who was not picked against France but returns against Wales at Twickenham LM RODBER under- Northsmpton. You tend to stands the capricious nature of Test rugby

Robert Armstrong meets the England

better than any other player in the England team. Widely touted as the next England captain for much of flanker suddenly found him-self the target of criticism when England's form hit the doldrums in the autumn. And last month he was dropped from the Five Nations opener against France, one defeat at least for which he need share no responsibility.

The 26-year-old forward has learned to cope with major setbacks, having experienced more than his fair share of them since making his international debut against Scotland four years ago. "The true test of character," he says, "is cracking on." how you fight back after you've been written off."

First the yawning 21-month sap between his second and third caps posed a stern chal-lenge to his self-belief, then

lose that sharper edge as a blind-side that you only get against League One oppo-nents such as Clarkey and Lawrence [Dallaglio]. There's a difference that you're bound to miss, especially when you play for England. "Added to that I've been

Recall is just reward

for resilient Rodber

playing a different kind of role for Northampton to the one England asked for. Possession has been easier to come by in league games. ''I'll admit you cannot maintain exactly the same

level of form that produced 10 wins on the trot with England last year. It didn't help either that I was carrying an injury in the South Africe game — and I got a lot of flak for that — but I intend to just keep In some respects Rodber

has become a victim of his own success in establishing Saturdav

His commercial work is re-stricted to wearing Reebok boots, yet his fierce loyalty to Northampton, who have put the trauma of relegation be-bind them with a mobiling hind them with a sparkling promotion challenge, allows him no respite from the pres sures of professional rugby. "Last season was a strange experience for me, sharing in a Grand Slam with England and dropping into League Two soon afterwards," he admitted. "Yet the atmosphere at Northampton could not be more positive nowadays and

I'm glad to be part of that." Since his England recall last weekend at the expense of Steve Ojomoh, Rodber has focused on the tasks he intends to carry out to the maximum discomfort of the Welsh. "I know what Jack [Rowall] wants from me: an extra physical edge, which I've

been working towards in training. I know I'm a good defensive No. 6, that I carry the ball well, and I'm a reasonable jumper at five, where I get through a fair amount of work. I want to make all that pay off on

Certainly Rodber is lightyears away from the stereo-typical destructive blind-side of the recent past, conforming rather to the All Blacks' con-





his dismissal for fighting dur-ing England's 1994 tour of South Africa delivered a huge blow to his self-esteem. Not least, the residual pain from old knee and ankle injuries will make his recall against Wales at Twickenham tomor- after you've row more demanding than it might have been. Rodber is an infantry cap-

tain, and the rigorous de-mands of his army career have helped him develop the hard mental edge required for survival in the international arena. But last season he played in 12 successive interplayed in 12 successive inter-nationals, including all six in England's game plan, yet World Cup matches, and no there was no compelling doubt that stressful campaign partly accounted for the fluc-tuations in form he showed against the Springboks and the Samoans. "I don't believe I lost that

much form, certainly not to the extent that people were saying," he said yesterday after coming through an arduous two-hour training session at Richmond. "I think I've got myself a lot fitter and stronger this sea-son. You only have to talk to my personal trainer and he'll tell you that the tell you that. My work-rate during matches is far higher than it's ever been."

A

£4

The real difference for me has come from playing a presentation team that League Two rugby with capitalises on his rugby fame.

'The true test of character is how cept of the all-purpose foot-baller who sets up creative you fight back links between the back row and the midfield backs. His bone-ratiling drives be-yond the gain line frequently been written off'

create abundant space for the half-backs, and he is justifi-ably critical of those pundits who prefer forwards to keep their heads in the trenches. player. In the World Cup, for instance, he was put through an unnecessarily severe "I know I've made one or schedule of games. The selectors regarded him

two mistakes with the ball in my hands but you musta't allow criticism of forwards who run with the ball to get you down," he declared.

reason why he should not have been rested for the pool game against Western Samoa "That's modern rugby and that's the game England as-pire to play, with forwards and backs building the presand the play-off against France. By that late stage the sure together."

Irrespective of the pattern threat of burn-out to key playof play that emerges in tomor-row's clash, Rodber will ers was obvious to everyone apart from the England relish the passion unleashed by every meeting of the Welsh and English. "I get a tremenmanagement. After the World Cup Rodber took a long holiday in Mauri-tius and then bought himself a chocolate labrador, called Whisper, with whom he takes dous buzz from this fixture. and from the match against Scotland," he said. "They are long relaxing walks in the the great historical occasions of the championship. Hampshire countryside.

"We have a new team with a good attitude and we'll need He also embarked on a new army role as a recruiting officer, making forays into to play well to win, but we don't need to be motivated for schools and colleges with this one; playing Wales is all the challenge we need."

Snooker



Sweating it out... Rodber has worked hard for his England place tomorrow FRANK BARON

Cancer blow

Squash

Richard Jago

for Parke

Rugby League

Leeds' loss is Bulls' gain as Lowes decides to move

Paul Fitzpatrick

AMES LOWES, the Leeds hooker, is the latest signing by Bradford Bulls as they prepare for Super League. Leeds were sorry to lose the versatile 26-year-old former Hunslet player, who is ex-pected to sign today on a other sponsors were to be three-year contract. Lowes, who is out of con-

tract, joined Leeds from after the fashion of Endsleigh Hunslet in 1992 and represented a shrewd piece of tal-ent-spotting by Doug Laughton, Leeds's coach at the time. Lowes quickly established himself at Headingley and made 29 appearances in his first season.

Although hooker is probably his best position, he is comfortable in the second row and even at scrum-half, where he has played a number of

times. The Super League, which starts next month, is to be sponsored for the next three years by Stones Bitter, backer contested by the top three of the championship over the sides in the First Division past decade. The company's plus the winners of the investment is a basic £1.7 mil- Second Division.

A State of the second second

lion but more money will be available for events promoted **Clive Everton** jointly by the sponsor and the Rugby Football League's mar-keting division.

...

Newport without having won a match all season, Maurice Lindsay, the yet now finds himself one step game's chief executive, away from the Regal Welsh Open final. Yesterday he beat stressed that all clubs would benefit from Stones money. Darren Morgan 5-2 to earn a But Stones would not object if semi-final against the 20-year-old Welsh left-hander Mark come associated with the Williams this afternoon. First and Second Divisions, Morgan, at No. 8 the highest Welshman in the world

in soccer. One innovation is a monthly Gold Award to be made to a player nominated by a panel of experts, who rankings, had set his heart on winning this title, which means almost as much to him as the world championship. With so many leading players eliminated he realised that he will also choose the Player of the Season. This award will had a great chance this time, but this seemed merely to cresupercede the Man of Steel prize, currently the game's highest individual honour. What was formerly the ate more pressure in his mind

Two frames down against Stones Premiership will be come the Stones Cup final. It Harold, he won the third with a magnificent total clearance of 143 and then levelled at 2-2 will be switched from May to but could only watch as the

September but will still be played at Old Trafford. The divisional final will be world No. 13 from Stoke romped away with the next three frames, the clincher three frames, the clincher champion Paul Hunter or early April but that will de-with a run of 73. Scotland's Drew Henry, who pend upon any side effects "Twe blown a golden oppor-beat Steve Davis in the last 16. from the chemotherapy.

tunity to win my first world-ranking tournament," Morgan lamented. "I honestly thought that if I could win today I was in the final, but AVE HAROLD came to I've played Dave three times now and never beaten him and every time I've been rubbish. I'm out now, so I hope Mark goes on to win the title for Wales."

Harold still rules

Harold reflected: "This game is all between the ears." Effectively blanking out a sea-son of "the most atrocious snooker of my career", he struggled back from 1-3 to beat Tony Jones 5-3 and from -4 to overhaul Karl Payne

Spooker of an altogether different quality then earned him a 5-3 win over the world champion Stephen Hendry in chemotherapy this week. the last 16. "During the Hendry match something just licked in my mind," he said.

John Parrott, pursuing his 22," he said yesterday. "Then second world-ranking title of hopefully I can get on with the season, will contest this my squash career." evening's semi-final against He hopes to contest the the 17-year-old English junior British Open in Cardiff in

SIMON PARKE, the world No. 5, has begun chemotherapy after an operation for testicular cancer only weeks after leading England to the world team title in November. The 23-year-old looks sure to miss the world circuit's Super Series final in Hatfield on March 21-24. Parke pleaded appendicitis when he unexpectedly withdrew from last month's Brit-

ish national championship in Birmingham, but the real reason was the urgent need for surgery. His January 2 operation, apparently completely successful, was followed by a first session of "I have one more big bout of chemo and two small ones

SAMANTHA Brewster is now 1,500 miles west of Cape Horn and on schedule to beat the east-west cir-cumnavigation record of 161 days, averaging 200 miles a day despite facing mainly strong headwinds since passing the treacherous rock outcrop at the bottom of South America in her 67ft Heath Insured.

Sailing

Bob Fisher

Brewster flying

into headwinds

She has dealt with problems on the boat's selfsteering gear, where she has used a locking compound to stop small grubscrews unwinding themselves because of vibration. But the routine this enables her to set has been disrupted by sail changes ne-cessitated by the weather.

At her latitude of 54 degrees south, the 29-year-old Brewster has not as yet experienced the full force of a Southern Ocean storm but she told ber shore base that "a good blow" would at least give her a break from constant sail changing.

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Council but plan to sue Cowan for negligence, a charge which entitles them to legal aid. Expert advice has come from Professor Arnold Beck-

Wing in waiting . . . by Laing

tish and Beauly wing who runs a foundry for his father. And Gerald knows England rugby: kicker first, try-scorer second.

As the classic proportion for open-air sculpture is 114 x life, they will all be the size of lock forwards. More figures may follow, bringing the forwards in. Their shapes appeal to Laing and size is no problem; his works include Pavarotti. But tomorrow Twickenham will have only one sculpture in situ. Entitled Union, it is by Tommy Steele. It may be seen at the south-east lift shaft.

HE Barmy Army, England's cricket followers as piring to respectability despite their soccer-style chants, failed to convince visitors to a wine cellar in Franschhoek, near Stellenbosch. The Afrikaans

THE iron business fist of corporate sponsorship has taken hold at the African Nations' Cup in South Africa. Press reports "bottles taken without being paid for, 'no smoking' signs ignored, locals harassed and lawns urinated on". The visitors' book, full of Photographers have been banned from taking canned beverages out to the pitch and been told to take labels off obscenities, had none more of-fensive than the heading, "A Lesser Third World Country bottles of mineral water. At If these are the true colours of Soccer City in Johannesburg coffee and milk in the media the Maltrap Magte (literally Loony Forces), the World Cup centre has been decanted into bosts may best be forearmed label-less containers on the

WHEN Britain's marathon selectors sit down this instructions of the Swissbased company ISL, marketing agent for the Confedera-tion of African Fooball. There weekend to pick the Olympic team there will be a few are eight official sponsors. Black tape is placed on TV knowing glances in the direc-tion of the national coach sets over the brand names of other companies. Gordon Surtees. Among the athletes he coaches is Yvonne Danson, who finished third CHRIS EUBANK, the for-mer world super-middlefor England in the 1994 Commonwealth Games six years after taking up jogging. After weight champion, has become a heavyweight at the second attempt. He has passed his HGV driving test. Eubank has seeing her set a personal best (just outside 2½ hours) in last year's Boston Marathon had his brushes with the law Surtees, Coe's former exerand landscape in Sussex be-fore. Over the past year he cise physiologist, tipped her for a gold medal in July, espe-

has been driving a giant cially as she trains in high American truck around humidity in Singapore, where Brighton on a provisional she lives. Last December she declared licence. To the disenchantherself for Singapore. Had she ment of neighbours he has run for Britain in last summer's world champion-WICKENHAM was due to ships she would have been subject to a three-year qualifying period before represent-ing her new allegiance. The man who talked her out of it. to save herself for the Olym-

ACK ROWELL was happy to explain his call-up of Paul Sampson, the 18-year-old Yorkshire schoolboy, to English his new fortress. He put it to rugby's men of taste that a visit to Twickenham should be "a cultural experience" see as selectors, and Sampson and invited suggestions. He got one response — from Far-Rowell has been on a course quhar Laing, a London Scot- run by Graham Taylor.

unveil a new place-kicker and wing tomorrow but the bronzes to go either side of the gilded lion on the Rowland Hill gate into the West Stand have been deferred to pics, was Surtees. the Ireland match on March 16. They will be joined later by

now discovered the horn.

a scrum-half and try-scorer. It was the RFU secretary Tony Hallett's idea to embel-

before finishing on February

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Pakistan voices World Cup fears, page 13 Rodber on life after the drop, page 15

Asprilla still in Newcastle's sights, page 14 Super League finds a familiar backer, page 15

Sports Guardian

ENGLAND'S CAPTAIN REVEALS A REDUCTION IN STATUS BY THE MANAGER

Rowell drops Carling from selectors

Robert Armstrong on the downgrading at odds with a call for greater responsibility

controversy yes-terday when he revealed that he is no longer an England selector and takes no part in selector and takes no part in selection meetings, notwith-standing his position as cap-tain. But the England man-ager Jack Rowell insisted that Carling was fully consulted about the composition of the team before and after every selectors' meeting and that his opinion remained valuable.

Under Geoff Cooke, Rowell's predecessor, Carling was a selector, and this marks reduced status, particularly since last summer's World Cup. Rowell's single-minded management style, coupled with his procrastination over Carling's future, have severely

cut the captain's authority. Carling said the England squad was "100 per cent con-fident" in Rowell as manager but, under questioning, he added: "I don't sit in on selec-tion meetings." He confirmed tion meetings." He confirmed manager. It is difficult to see that be had no formal post as how Carling, "disappointed" a selector. Rowell, who has at the time by Probyn's atti-the final say in team matters, tude, could work effectively identified the current selec-tors as Les Cusworth, Mike Slemen, John Elliott and Peter Rossborough, the Eng-

land A squad manager. In the past month Rowell has publicly pursued the

ILL CARLING ling, England's longest-serv-stirred fresh ing captain with more than controversy yes- seven years under his belt. has been given less responsi has been given rest tormally. No other Test captain with Car-ling's depth of experience would be kept of his coun-

try's selection panel. Rowell also threw out a broad hint that he wanted the former England prop Jeff Pro-byn on the selection panel. Probyn has been highly critical of Carling's captaincy and

suggested he should not have taken part in the selection of the team when Cooke was with a man who used to be-lieve Carling wanted him out of the England team.

Even though Carling is kept fully informed by Rowell of proposed changes in personnel or the strategic developtheme that he wants the ment of the squad, Rowell pre-senior players — what he fers to involve as many strong derly captain should not be calls the "multi-cap brigade" personalities as possible in — to take more responsibility the informal think-tank he on and off the field. Yet Car- has set up since taking over the 1999 World Cup.

as manager 22 months ago. His former job as chief execu-tive of Dalgety has conditioned him towards a firm centralist approach to man management which makes liberal use of well-informed satellites. Captain and manager were at one when Carling echoed Rowell's view that beating

Wales in tomorrow's interna-tional at Twickenham was more important than playing running rugby, although that possibility was not ruled out. "We need to improve after the France defeat and I believe what the crowd enjoy most is to see England win," said Carling. "I don't think the booing in the Samoan game [before Christmas] came from a large

section of the crowd. Anyway they gave voice to their approval when we scored our tries." The Cooke regime was characterised by pre-plan-

ning, precise attention to detail at selectors' meetings and prior consultation with Car-ling face to face and by tele-

In contrast Rowell has been

State of confusion . . . Carling at training for tomorrow's Wales match





HE jobsworth clang ingly slammed shut the gate at the Arms Park. "It is a private practice down there," he growled, un-appreciative of any possible first chapter in history. So not even a glimpse was allowed of the first passes thrown by the new Wales halfback pairing of Arwel Thomas and Robert Howley, whose daunting job at Twickenham tomorrow is underlined by their never having played a

match together Thomas, a pale, frail, spindly sprite with a schoolboy's morning face and a blunt-scis sored Tintin hairstyle, would have been happy to be watched. "Nothing secret," he said as they went out. "Just me telling him where and how I want the ball. Later we'll up the pace a bit and by Saturday we'll be gelied, you see.'

Of course, the lore's most arming chestnut remains the day Barry John first met Gareth Edwards at Johnstown. They were first paired against New Zealand in 1967 and John remembers: "Gareth phoned me at college and said we had to practise. He had a car so he would come to me at Carmarthen, I said I'd be at the Ystrad playing fields. It was a fearful Sunday morning, freezing rain pelting down, and it had been a long Saturday-night party for me. "Gareth was already there, sippy-sappy, all ready to go in gleaning tracksuit and newly

colished boots. I was dying to go back to bed and felt even more rumpled than my frayed attu n'

FRANK BARON

when two other half-back immortals first met three days before Wales played New Zea-land in 1935. Haydn Tanner, a month off his 19th birthday. was still at Gowerton county school Cliff Jones, son of a wealthy Porth greengrocer, was up at Cambridge and his father's chauffeur drove him to Swansea to meet his new scrum-half.

Friday February 2 1996

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the Kelly, acre

and dance

Under the colonnade of the St Helen's stand. Tanner threw out the first batch of his celebrated stream of passes to Jones. Then they broke for a snack, cockles from Tanner and a bunch of rare bananas from Jones. And then, as the classic Fields of Praise notes, they continued "familiarising themselves with each other's play, and as Jones glided into Tanner's pass he could only wonder at the purring, apparently effortless grace of it; it was like sitting in his

father's Rolls-Royce". For utter sporting romance of the scrum-half saying "Hi" to the fly for the first time. surely none can match that of Chico Hopkins 26 Februaries ago at Twickenham. Wales were up against it, losing 13-3 with 28 minutes left. Edwards badly tore a hamstring - and on to partner John for the first time in any match bounced Maesteg's cunning, chunky Chico. "Leave it to me, Barry bach," he said.

It was to be Hopkins's only cap, but in those 28 minutes he managed more than some man had with 40 to their name. First, as promised, he fed John for a try; then he bamboozled England's blind-side and bullocked over himself; then his scoop-and-switch made a try for JPR; and finally he popped a ball to John for a crowning 40-yard drop. England 13, Wales 17. "Oh, by the way, Barry." said Hopkins at the final whistle, "when I came on I forgot to say good afternoon.

IND you, the ripest scrum-half's intro-duction of himself

to his new fly must

'The squad is 100 per cent confident in Rowell as manager' - Carling

phone. For a long period in the early Nineties the Eng-land side was settled anyway and occasionally Cooke and Carling would spend more time discussing the make-up of the six replacements than the team.

> tinkering with the England team --- to good effect last season when they won a Grand Slam — but the mood of ex-perimentation is new to Carling in the national set-up. Rowell may have felt his or-



	Year b	an for	cocai	ne foot	baller	"Gareth started throwing passes and I was slithering over in the mud. He was get- ting furious with me, so I said: "Heck, Gareth, on Saturday you throw 'em and I'll catch	remain Vic Marriott's to Joe McPartlin at the Middle- sex Sevens finals long ago. The custom then was for a for- ward to play sevens at scrum-
	John Duncan HE Leyton Orient de- fender Roger Stanis-	any kind of drug abuse," said Hearn after the FA hearing at Lancaster Gate. "The matter had to be dealt with and the inquiry was con-	thal dose on Thursday of more than a kilogram of co- caine". A lethal dose can be as little as 25 grams. Stanislaus was judged to	The FA panel, which com- prised Geoff Thompson (Shaf- field FA). Keith Wiseman (Southampton FC) and Reg Burr (Millwall FC), had the	dealt with very harshly. "I'd like to say that this isn't the tip of an iceberg, but it would be naive of anyone to suggest that the drugs culture	'em. Let's leave it at that so I can go back to bed.' This irri- tated him even more, and he snapped: 'Don't worry about my passes, boy. I'll get them to you from anywhere. Just make sure you can catch 'em.' Then he grinned. Hey.	half, and Harlequins duly chose Marriott, England's barnstorming pack-leader, to partner McPartlin, Scotland's gregarious fly. Leopards and spots and all that, but the partnership was not a happy one, as the Scot explained: "I didn't too much
	soccer player to be banned for drug-taking. An FA disciplin- ary commission found him guilty of taking cocaine on a match-day and suspended him for a year.	cision fairly, and we have to live by their rules." An ap- peal is unlikely. The 27-year-old Stanislaus admitted having taken an ille- gal substance, but he said it	cocaine" between one and six hours before the test. After the match, which kicked off at 3.0pm, he was selected at ran- dom for testing at 4.55 and a urine test was conducted at 6.40. The cocaine was there-	misconduct, but are said to have shown leniency after ac- cepting that Stanislaus was not an habitual drug user.	football." Last year the FA drugs pro- gramme conducted 272 tests and found 12 positives	headed as I am' - and we both	mind every pass all along the ground, nor even having to fall on every ball he gave me, but what was most worrying was that every time I did go down it was always Marriott who was first to charge up and kick me in the back."
	ford and Bury player now faces dismissal from his club, who on Tuesday morning will discuss the matter at a board meeting headed by Leyton Orient's chairman, the snooker and boxing impress- rio Barry Hearn.	Thursday evening before the game against Barnet on Sat- urday November 25. Dr David Cowan, head of the King's College drug testing labora- tory in London, disputed this. He testified that to produce the results obtained on the	5.0pm. Stanislaus's is the longest ban handed down by the FA since 1965, when three Shaf- field.Wednesday players were banned for life for match-fix- ing. Eric Cantona was banned for eight months in 1894 for	against cannable and cocaine two years ago. "The punishment reflects the severity of the offence." said Brendon Batson of the Professional Footballers' Association. "This is a clear message to say that	Litter took ecstary, Page 15 Guardian Crossy Set by Pasquale	word No 20,565	······
Stanislans faces dismissal	"I'm very disappointed; I am opposed, as the club is, to	Saturday. Stanislaus "would have had to have taken a le-	attacking a Crystal Palace spectator during a match.	if you are caught in these circumstances you'll be			

Ruddles County Riddles. No. 2. Have you got the time?

Eric and his friend Edith confused a stranger the other day, while enjoying a few pints of Ruddles County at their local pub.

During lunch they were approached by a shifty-looking spir. He opened up his cost to reveal a selection of watches at bargain prices. To encourage the dubious onlookers be carefully removed the outer casing of his favourite watch, so that Eric and Edith could admire the intricacy of its workings."I bet you've never seen such a complex mechanism," he enthused as Eric and Edith quaffed their flavoursome pints of Ruddles.

4



Edith, irritated at having a quiet drink spoilt, quipped, "That's where you're wrong. I have a chronometer with so many components, it would take an age to count them all." To which Eric added, "And I own one which has no moving parts whatsoover." Having concluded that there was nothing special about his watch, they sent the puzzled stranger on his way.

To the head brewer at Ruddles, who is forever checking his watch to assure that County is fermanted for exactly the right length of time, the answer to this riddle was obvious. But if you don't have the time to work this one out, try moving this paper to 6.30 precisely.

1

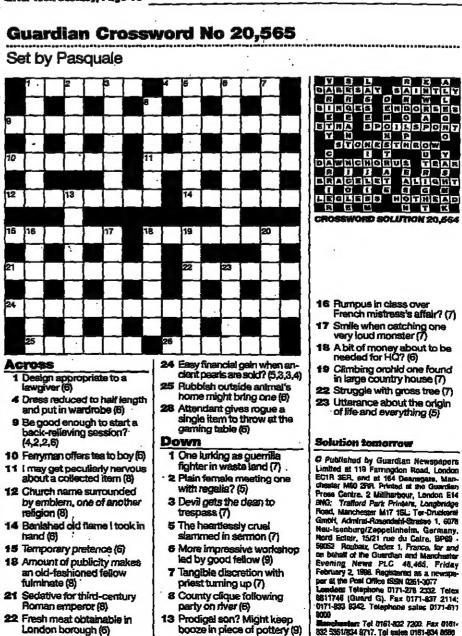
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